

Col. Stone's Life of Brant is noticed
in this number, & extracts made from
it. See Table of Contents at the End.

Sketch-Book

No 12

From January 1, 1839

To August 5th 1839

“Laugh where we must, be candid where we can,
But vindicate the ways of God to man.”¹

Prefatory Remarks.

In the following Journal I shall
continue a registry of the weather from
day to day, interspersed with notices
of such events as are deemed important
and useful, adding such remarks and
reflections as offer for the moment.
Above journal of the weather may be
deemed dry and uninteresting, and no
doubt

¹ From Alexander Pope’s *Essay on Man*, Epistle 1.

doubt would be so, did it not furnish data for explaining the phenomena of the atmosphere and the physical laws of meteorology, as displayed to our view.

By a long series of observations of this kind, probably we might be enabled to deduce rules for predicting the changes of the weather, with more certainty than the imaginary influence of the planetary bodies, so long relied upon by the unscientific world and now exploded by men of real knowledge.

The heat derived from the Sun is no doubt one of the great causes of changes in the weather. But there are others operating at the same time, perhaps not less powerful. I allude to chemical processes going on in the earth, upon a scale beyond our comprehension; and which naturally affect our atmosphere without such causes, constantly in operation, it would be impossible to explain the different temperature of the air on different days, while the sun remained nearly in the same position, as relates to the surface of the earth. Were the rays of the sun the only cause of atmosphere heat & changes, the temperature would be less variable, and in some degree uniform on consecutive days.

January 1839

Tuesday 1~ Morning fair and very cold; wind NW. A white frost covers the trees and buildings, and the cold is increasing daily, and may be said to be pretty severe. Who would suppose it possible that human beings could reside in the Arctic regions at this season? They must be miserable indeed; ~~and~~ they suffer not only from the cold, but from want of clothing, fuel and even food~ The day clear and very bright sun, & no dropping from the eaves. This morn, by a mean of two thermometers, the mercury 14 ½ below zero.

Wednesday 2. Cloudy day Wind North & cold a few flakes of snow.

This day our Legislature commences its session

Thursday 3. Cloudy Day wind north & small – a slight fall of snow- Air moderate

Friday 4 Cloudy morn with a moderate fall of snow- Wind North, gentle snow=1 inch

Saturday 5 Cloudy Morn- wind gentle North after part of the day clear & pleasant
The weather rather moderate

Sunday 6. Fair day Trees covered
with hoar frost- Wind hardly perceptible
through the day.

Monday 7 Cloudy day little fall of
snow in the morning. Air nearly calm
East mountain topped with fog. Rain and
hail began before noon, and the latter continued
moderately through the day, with a southerly wind

Tuesday 8 Fair day Wind at N.W.
last night considerable rain fell a bright
sun at noon & night. much thawing of eves.

Animal Magnetism (once more)

Dr Poyen the magnetizer being at Greenfield
and exhibiting his feats there & in other towns
in the vicinity, produces some excitement among
the people. In the Greenfield Gazette & Mercury
of the 1st instant, we have an account of examin
ations of several sick persons by Miss Glea
son. Dr Poyen's []: one is as follows-
"Another individual in this town was examin
ined in presence of several highly respectable
as well as acute citizens. Dr Poyen magnet
ized Miss Gleason, and left the room, leav
ing her to examine the invalid in his
absence; and she correctly described
the symptoms."

Meeting

8

Examination of
a Patient

Animal Magnetism

Meeting the sick person alluded to in the above account, she gave me the following statement of facts.

Dr. Payen, Miss Gleason and several gentlemen and Ladies, came to the house of Mr. Wait where she resided at the time, took a room and Miss G. was put to sleep, magnetically.

The patient a young Lady who had been unwell some time, then entered the room and was seated near ~~by~~ Miss G. who was sitting on a chair apparently in a sleep. Dr Poyen in the opposite corner of the room, said to Miss G. "we have a patient for ~~examine~~ you to examine." The patient was then directed to place her hand upon Miss G's, which done Miss G. took her by one wrist and felt ~~of~~ for her pulse and said you have no pulse ~~there is little or no pulse~~, then felt the other wrist and found the pulse was better as she said stronger ~~stronger~~. She then felt of the patients shoulders, breast ~~and~~ &c. and made several remarks, turning her head occasionally, as any other person while awake. She then felt about the region of the liver, and declared it bad, saying it was green and yellow and that she could scrape it off, with a knife.

She then enquired of the patient whether she would not choose that the males should retire before she proceeded? This the patient submitted to her; and the men left the room. The region of the kidneys was then examined, and they pronounced
weak

Jany
8

weak ~~or feeble~~. By this time Miss G. became sick at the stomach, and ~~requested~~ a window was ~~to~~ raised for fresh air. The manipulations continued for some time, during which Miss G. was full of conversation. The gentlemen at length returned into the room, and Miss G then gave a prescription for the patient, which she requested Dr Poyen to write down.

Animal Magnetism

In the examination Miss G. pointed out some of the difficulties the patient labored under, and others that were incorrect. At length Dr Poyen gave Miss G. some magnetic water and awoke her from her sleep; on which she stared at the patient very attentively, but said nothing.

A few days after Dr Poyen sent a written prescription to the patient; but some of the ingredients mentioned by Miss G. were not included, while others were inserted according to the Dr's discretion.

The prescription was examined by Dr Williams, who thought the medicines of little ~~repute~~ value.

Remarks
on

The pathology of Miss G. seems to have been in no respect superior to that of any person who had been in the habit of attending on the sick, such as we find in many nurses among us: and indeed in any observing person who has seen sick people in the various stages ~~specters~~ of disease.

Magnetizers in this occult art would persuade us, that Miss G. was in a deep sleep, during all this operation! What proof have we of this? There was no appearance of the kind excepting the closing of the eyes, and the declaration of the Lady. Were we to see a person with closed eyes in the attitude of sleep, and no voluntary motion appeared, but all was calm, we might believe she was in a sleep. But what stronger proof should we require that she was awake then to see her use her hands, move her head and talk at the same time, like other people by their voluntary functions. In a deep sleep can a person do this? That miss G was asleep at the time she examined her patient, we have her declaration; but who believes her? It is said the discharge of a pistol near ~~her~~ will not rouse her. This, to me, is rather a proof that she is awake. When I am satisfied she does not hear the report of the pistol I may suspect she is in a sleep, but not till then.

In all this operation with the patient nothing appears to me as very extraordinary, nor any thing that might not be performed by any two active and artful persons.

It is said by some who were present, that Miss Gleason, was not previously informed that she was to be brought in presence of a sick person. Be it so! Yet Dr Poyen

8	informed her, that <u>he had a patient to examine</u> , the moment the invalid came into the room; and it is very natural to suppose Miss G. saw her, by a small opening of her eye imperceptible to the spectators. In conclusion: Which is the most probable, that Miss G. was awake and knew what she was about, or that she was
Remark on	in a profound sleep, performed all that as said she did? In the last case an unaccountable phenomenon, in the other, one that was easy, natural and within the reach of art. Wise men will not hesitate in the solution.
<u>9</u>	<u>Wednesday</u> Fair day wind W. eaves drop. Hazy at sun down.
<u>10</u>	<u>Thursday</u> . Fair Day Wind S. last night a <u>dash</u> of snow air moderate. Eaves dropping.
Iron Stove	This day erected a small cast iron stove in my sitting room, with a compound pipe, appending and then descending into my cast iron fire place. It receives wood 17 inches in length through an opening 5 inches square. The saving of wood no doubt may be considerable; but whether

- 10 Stoves on the whole, are preferable to open fire places is a question. They produce a different state of the air, and it may not be so salubrious as in a room with an open fire place. One inconvenience attends them: the air at the bottom of the room is always of a low temperature, while that in the upper part is much higher. The feet are cool while the head is warm, which is contrary to the old adage, "Keep the head cool & the feet warm."
- 11 Friday. Fair day Wind S.
and warm Roads begin to be bare
yesterday George Fuller arrived here from
Illinois, having served in my son's engineering Corps upwards of a year, during which time he has been well. He returned by Indiana, Ohio, Wheeling, Baltimore, Philadelphia New-York, New Haven & Hartford nearly all the way by land. No snow in Illinois when he left.
- 12 Saturday Cloudy, foggy morn and calm
At noon wind south, and at night
fair. Day thawing. Evening brisk W. wind
- 13 Sunday Fair day—Wind N.W.
and the air moderate.
- 14 Monday Cloudy morn Fair at noon wind
N. Air moderate.

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Governor Ritner's Message to the
General Assembly of Pennsylvania. Decr 27, 1838

The forepart of this message details the scenes of confusion which commenced and continued to disgrace the seat of Government sometime, at Harrisburg, in the first part of the Session.

Mob
at
Harrisbu
rg.

In the afternoon of the first day of the Session of the Senate, a mob of lawless and daring persons were found to be in attendance, who attempted to influence and dictate the course to be pursued by that body. Certain members were admitted to seats, in accordance with the known laws of the state, but in opposition to the will of these persons. As soon as this was done the lives of the Senators and others were threatened, and loud cries were heard commanding the Senate to reconsider its vote, and admit other claimants to seats. To such heights did this scandalous outrage proceed, that the Senate adjourned in confusion, and some members of the Legislature, and others were compelled to escape from the chamber unknown to the mob, to save their lives.

And
distur
bances
at.

The

rioters under their leaders, some of whom were Federal Government officers, then took possession of the Senate chamber, and desecrated it by their insurrectionary harangues, in the course of which, and afterwards at other places, it was announced that a revolution had commenced. – The next day and for sometime afterwards, the Senate did not meet for want of a quorum, the members not deeming it safe to appear in their seats. On the same day also, when one of the portions of the House of Representatives attempted to meet, the member who had been deputed to act as speaker was prevented from taking the chair, and violently ejected from the hall by the mob. Many other excesses are detailed by the Governor.

During the occurrences of these disgraceful events neither branch of the Legislature could hold a regular session, the Executive Chamber and State Department were closed, and confusion and alarm pervaded the seat of Government.

A proclamation was issued calling on all the civil authorities to exert themselves for the restoration of law and order, and on the militia to keep themselves in instant readiness to march to the seat of government to suppress the violence. Part of the militia were marched to Harrisburg, and a requisition made

made on the commanding officer of the U.S. troops at Carlisle to bring his ~~troops~~ force to the aid of the constituted authorities. At the same time the President of the U.S. was informed of the state of affairs, and required to take such steps under the 4th section of the 4th article of the Constitution of the U.S. as might seem proper.

Militia
force
at Harris
burg }

The arrival of the militia at the seat of Government suppressed the insurrection; but no aid was received from the US Government.

The Governor adds some pertinent remarks upon the proceedings of the mob. "If, says he, a repetition of the outrage be countermand, and mob threats become the rule of legislation, then it requires little political sagacity to foretell the speedy downfall of ~~all rights~~ our liberty and the complete prostration of all rights." It remains to be seen whether the laws of the state can bring ~~the~~ the offenders to merited punishment. The message is a long one, and evinces much knowledge of the affairs of the state, as well as firmness in the Governor. Speaking of the aid to the people in the Canada insurrection, he says, "It has been communicated to me from a source entitled to unlimited credit, that numerous Masonic lodges, embracing

New-
Masonry

many thousands of sworn members, have been recently established in the frontier states with the express ~~purpose~~ object of attacking and revolutionizing the adjoining British Provinces. Those who know the perfect adaptation of sworn secret societies to such an object, and the reckless character of many of the persons probably engaged in the enterprise, can credit the statement. The fact, however, presents one more and a most convincing reason for the enactments of severe and effectual laws against the administration of extra-judicial oaths." He adds, "I have frequently brought this subject to the attention of the Legislature. It is again presented with an ardent hope that the necessary legislation may take place, and that the stumbling block may at length be removed."

Gov. Ritner

All important as is this recommendation of Governor Ritner, there is no great probability that it will be adopted by a legislature so warped by party principles as the Legislature of Pennsylvania.

Masonry is an excellent machine for managing a free government, and carrying on dangerous plots; and such is the stupidity of many of our people, even among our leading men, that the society can continue its infernal operations, without suspicion. It may kidnap, murder, and commit perjury in Courts of Justice, with impunity. This conduct of many of our people has lowered my estimation of their honesty, & of their discernment. We

Hunt
ers Lodg
es.

We have information from Canada, that, "it came out, on the trials of the patriot prisoners, at Kingston, that a secret combination of patriot clubs exists all along the American border from Michigan to Maine, known by the name of Hunter's Lodges, and that they have pass words, &c No matter, secret societies are harmless! Aye, and benevolent too! When antimasons ceased their efforts against masonry, I predicted it would revive in a modified form: We now see it as predicted.

Governor Ritner's gubernatorial term expires about this time, and he retires with the good wishes of good men. He is a sound antimason and was elected as one; but the democracy of the state and part of the antimasons went against him at the last election, and carried an opponent

15

Tuesday Fair day Wind
north—air cold.

Mass.
Legisla
ture

Governor Everett's Address to the Legislature of Massachusetts Jany. 10th 1839

His contains a plain detail of the affairs of the State, without the common extravagant length. By the details relating to the Treasury it appears that our receipts are falling short & we may be obliged to resort to a direct tax. This I have supposed would be the case

if the state continued the profuse grants of money as it has for a few years past. A tax may perhaps, turn the attention of the people to our expenditures and I hope particularly to that part which results from the large & unnecessary representation in the House. ~~of Representatives~~

The Governor states “that the final Report of the astronomer appointed to make astronomical observations and calculations necessary for the construction of the map, was rendered towards the close of the last session of the Legislature.”

Excepting the fixing of the Lat. & Long. of one point in the State (say the state House) I can see no ~~see no~~ advantage that will accrue from the astronomers observations. The primitive points in the triangulations will not be varied for the astronomical ones. All the points in the triangulations can be fixed from the geographical position of the State House, or any other fixed point. The relative bearings and distances of places fixed by the astronomer, may be determined by spherical trigonometry, but not with the precision of those from the triangulations

Wednesday- Fair day—Wind North
air cold—sun very bright.

- 17 Thursday Fair day Wind
N. Gentle. Sun clear & pleasant day
our roads are bare & little snow on the ground.
- 18 Friday Fair morn partially cloudy
most of the day & a south breeze.
- 19 Saturday Cloudy morn breeze from
south. Afternoon wind veered to N.W.
and clouds broke away: air cold.
- 20 Sunday Fair morn. Wind N.
Day fair & cloudy & cold. Afternoon
wind veered to South, and air clear.
Orthopedique Institution. This is now ~~is~~
in successful operation in Boston, con-
ducted by John W Brown M.D. at No 65
Belknap Street. The name is from the
Greek Orthus, right, and pais a child.
In plain English the institution is for
the cure of spinal distortions, club-
feet &c. But nothing short of a Greek
name will answer the task of our
times. The principal Physicians in Boston
approve of the plan & offer their aid.
- 21 Monday Morn Cloudy Wind
southerly & moderate. Day cloudy & fair.
- 22 Tuesday Fair morn Wind S.
Afternoon cloudy & snow fell.
Letter from son Arthur to my Daugh

New
Institu
tion

Letter
from my
Son

ter Isabella Jany 8- States that he had been at Vandalia & at Stebbins & Clesson's Plantations, where a company had a hunt and killed several turkey & Deer and wild cat; that all were well and enjoyed themselves finely, & that Stebbins & Clesson were more and more pleased with the Country. This station is said to be remarkable for game. Mr Clessons Boys furnish ample supplies of meat for the family as we are informed. No snow in Illinois at the date of the letter.

23

Wednesday. Cloudy morn; snow fell yesterday & last night about an inch Snow in the forenoon; afternoon fair and N.W. wind, and very cold.

24

Thursday Fair & cold morn; wind S. Day fair, with scattering clouds and cold

25

Friday Fair Day—Wind South; the sky hazy most of the day. At night the clouds thicker, indicating rain. Of the proceedings of our Legislature we hear little. We have two Representatives, who though they are furnished with a plenty of papers, neglect to send them to us.

26

Saturday. Rain morn; Wind South or S.E. Day rainy, Wind variable but generally South; our River broke up. At Sun set high S wind, which continued in the evening and did some damage to trees & buildings

Jany
27 Sunday Morn Clody Wind S.W.
Last night a pretty high flood, and much of our meadow covered with water and ice. The high wind [] some hovels & cowhouses, and prostrated some old trees. The strongest part of the gale was from the S.W., from which point most or all of our hurricanes have proceeded: according to my recollection. The ground is now nearly free from snow. Day cloudy nearly throughout.

28 Monday. Morn Cloudy, cold & wind N.W. Fair & cloudy alternately through the day.

Destruc
tive
Flood We learn that great damage has been sustained from the sudden rise of our rivers, in the loss of Bridges; two on Green river in Deerfield have been swept off and one arch of that across the Connecticut on the Greenfield road has given way, and probably we shall hear of other damage in the neighboring towns. Of late years bridges have been multiplied, and in many instances thereon our rivers, with less elevation than the rise of waters in former times required; and the consequence is their destruction in the case of high floods. I recollect the time when it was supposed that a bridge at Cheapside could not be made to withstand the floods~

- 29 Tuesday Fair day wind west bright
sun. We continue to hear of disasters from
the flood; one or two bridges at Charleston
N Hampshire and one at Hartford Ct. are swept
off; the upper dam at Miller's River and
part of that at Turner's falls are carried off
and many small bridges in the neighboring
towns. The loss of the canal dams will be
severely felt by the public as well as the
owners. Some of the masses of Ice brought
down our river and lodged in the meadow
at the South and of our street, measured 2 feet
5 ½ inches of pure green ice. Probably the
thickness was lessened by solution on its
passage
- Mass
es of
Ice
30 Wednesday Fair and broken clouds
Wind N.W. in morn.: Afternoon fair and
pleasant.
- Letter
from
my son Received a Letter from Son Arthur Paris
Jany 15 1839. All in good health, except
now and then a chill. All busy in making re
turns to the Legislature.
- Parker's
Tour
See page
37 Revd. Samuel Parker, the late Tourist across
the rocky mountains to the mouth of Oregon
river, called on me and spent a short time
I purchased his Journal for 7/6- 1 Vol. pp 371.
with a map and 1 plate. He states that he
generally enjoyed good health during his ab
sence, and returned by sea round Cape horn
- 31 Thursday Fair day—Wind SW – fair
and pleasant; some thin clouds and the
air not very cold.

Feby 1
1839

Celestial
Scenery
by Dr
Dick.

Friday Fair Morn; soon cloudy, Wind NW.
afternoon a snow whitened the ground.
Purchased Dick's Celestial Scenery: or wond
ers of the Planetary System Displayed &c 1 Vol
pp 390, with numerous wood cuts for 4/6
Printed at Brookfield Mass 1838 by E & L
Merriam A very interesting work, illus
trative of the perfections of Deity, and a
plurality of Worlds. This is the 5th
work of the Author, and he promises
an other, as a continuation of the last,
in which is to be inserted, the means
by which astronomy may be promoted;
together with descriptions of the telescope
the equatorial and other instruments,
and the manner of using them for ce
lestial investigations~
The Celestial Survey contains a fund
of Astronomical information, familiarly ex
plained, and this argument in proof
of a plurality of worlds is next to de
monstration.
The other works of Dick (which are
in our Social Library) are philosophi
cal, and well worthy the attention of
men of science. Seldom have I seen
the omnipotence, wisdom, and benevolence
of Deity so strikingly displayed as in ~~the~~
these volumes: they deserve a place in
every gentleman's library. If he is

Febby 1	Sometimes visionary, he atones for the error by his remarkable display of good sense and the novelty of his matter.
2	<u>Saturday</u> Morn Cloudy afternoon fair, and wind westerly
3	<u>Sunday</u> Fair morn wind South Cloudy mid day; at night Clouds broken
4	<u>Monday</u> Cloudy morn day partially fair and wind west.
Variation of the Needle. on the disputed boundary	<p><u>N.E. Boundary</u> of the U. States. A survey was made of this line last year by direction of the Government of Maine according to the treaty of 1783, a report of which has been published in the papers. Capt Parrot was the surveyor and several Commissioners attended him. The survey commenced at the N E angle of Maine as they fixed it; the variation of the needle W 19°- 12' nearly. The variation at the <u>monument</u> as ascertained in 1817 & 1818 was 14° and at the N end 17°--45' W. When I was on the line in 1805 at Mars Hill, the variation was about 12°- 50' W Should the lines described in the treaty of 1783, be agreed on as the boundary between New Brunswick and Maine, it should be [] with a good transit instrument, to avoid the errors of the magnetic needle, and for this purpose it would be necessary to cut an avenue through the wood, the whole length of the line, until mountains & hills intervene in which signals may be erected.</p>

- Feby 5 Tuesday. Fair day. Wind South
and cold. Our roads are now bare
and very smoth for travelling
- 6 Wednesday. Fair day—Wind NW
part of the day thin clouds overspread
the sky, and squalls of snow occurred.
- 7 Thursday. Fair morn. Wind South
and cold; afternoon partially cloudy.
The 5th instant received a letter of the 1st
from C.O. Boutelle, with the American
Almanac for 1839. A very acceptable pre
sent. When it was handed to me, by Mr.
Russell, the bearer, I was engaged in de
termining the Suns declination from back
tables. The ephemeris in the Almanac
gave me the desideration at once
Mr. Boutelle thinks attempts will be
made to suspend Mr Borden's opera
tions on the map of the Commonwealth
on account of the weather & of the delay consequent
to the inaccuracy of the town surveys.
But I cannot believe the Commonwealth
will lose what has already been done
towards its completion. We had bet
ter lessen our expenses by a curtail
ment of some other items
- 8 Friday. Morn cloudy. Wind SW.
Day clear & cloudy. Little snow on
the ground & roads smooth.
- Letter
from C.
O. Boutelle

- 9 Saturday Cloudy morn with a
little fall of snow. Wind N. Afternoon
clear snow falling about ½ inch Pleasant
- 10 Sunday Fair Morn—Wind South
most of the day cloudy.
- 11 Monday Fair day, with scattering
thin clouds; Wind N. moderate.
Mailed a letter to my son Arthur at
Paris, Illinois, in answer to his of the 15th
of January.
- 12 Tuesday. Morn fair. a sprinkling of
snow last night; a south breeze and
pleasant day.
- 13 Wednesday. Fair day. Wind South
and pleasant throughout.
- 14 Thursday Fair and very pleasant
day, like April, the air nearly calm
breeze from North. For a few days past
the weather like spring
- 15 Friday. Cloudy day indicator of rain
south breeze. Some snow fell afternoon
- 16 Saturday Cloudy & foggy morn. After
noon fair & warm- Wind a breeze
from north- a spring like day ground
bare.

I am perusing Col. Stone's Life
of Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea)

Feby
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Stone's
Life of
Brant

including the Border Wars of the American Revolution, and sketches of the Indian Campaigns of Generals Harmer, St Clair & Wayne, and other matters &c from 1783 to 1795. 2 Vols 8 vo with plates & portraits.

The work contains, in fact, a history of the Revolutionary War, and is very full upon the Indian wars on the western & northern part of the state of New York. Col Stone has had access to a great number of documents of the New-York officers, which has enabled him to give much that has hitherto been unknown in our histories, and has produced a work highly interesting.

Brant
His
charac
ter

The Character of Brant has been displayed to us in history, in unfavorable colors; as a bloody and cruel monster justly to be hated by all human people; but Col. Stone presents him in a different light- as having possessed many Amiable traits, and he acquits him of the barbarities said to have been committed by him at Wyoming. which he thinks have been very much exaggerated in our histories. The Expedition of Sullivan into the Indian Country in 1779, is more
fully

Feby
16

fully detailed than of any of our Histories; and the Indian incursions on the frontiers of New-York are given with much minuteness. The accounts of Burgoyne's Battles at Bemis heights, like most of them I have seen, are imperfect. That battles seem not to be well understood and all the accounts published except those of Genl Wilkinson, are very defective. In his 1st vol. in the appendix, Col Stone has inserted a "visit to Burgoyne's Battle grounds" by a Gentleman he calls the venerable Samuel Woodruff Esqr. of Windsor Connecticut, who, he says, was a participator in the battles. The Visit is said to have been made on the 50th anniversary of the battle viz Octr 17th 1827. He gives the title of Judge to Mr Woodruff.

Judge
Wood
ruffs
visit
to the
Battle
Ground

The Judge says, he put up at Mr Barkers tavern (at Saratoga) and after dinner viewed the ruins of the British fortifications, and head quarters of Burgoyne. He kept his head quarters several days at a house now standing and in good repair, about a mile north of Fish Creek, on the west side of the road around by Mr Busher (Buchet)." While B. held his quarters at this house &c [Burgoyne did not quarter at this house; but in his main camp more than a mile Sw on the high ground See Wilkinsons Memoirs 1801] "At this time he says the American troops were stationed on the east bank of the Hudson, opposite

Feby
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to the house in fair view of it.” [Not here some of Fellows militia were there with attachment of Gate’s artillery] “From there I proceeded to and viewed the sport where Gen. Burgoyne presented his sword to Gen. Gates, also the ground in which the arms of the royal army was stacked and piled. This memorable place is situated on the flat, north side of Fish creek about 40 rods west of it’s the entrance into the Hudson.” [Burgoyne surrendered his Sword to Gates on the South side of the creek]

Fort Hardy built
by Dieshau
says the
Judge

“Contiguous to the this spot is the NW. angle of old Fort Hardy, a military work thrown up and occupied by the French, under Gen. Dieshau, in the year 1755.” [The Judge if versed in the law, certainly knows little of the history of the Country on the Hudson. Dieshaus troops never came so far south as fort Edward His details of the battles are not very correct] Burgoyne he says crossed the Hudson and entrenched his troops on the high lands of Saratoga: On the 19th of September they left their entrenchments and moved south by a slow and cautious march toward the American camp at Behmis heights. Upon the approach of the royal army the American forces sallied forth and met the British, about ½ a mile north of the American lines. &c. and a severe conflict ensued. Night put an end to the battle. The royal army with drew on the night leaving the field and then slain with some of

Febby
16

Inaccuracies of Judge Woodruff

their wounded in possession of the Americans
[Most of this is incorrect. Facts. On the 15th of Sept
Burgoyne took a position at Dovecote
north of Van Vechtins creek; and on the 17th
continued his march, and halted at Swords
house about 2 miles N of Smiths less than 4 miles from Gates position
and encamped extending from the River
over the meadow and high grounds to a deep ravine.
on the 18th Gates detached of about 1500
to reconnoiter the British position and draw
them out of their lines into the woods. A small
skirmish ensued & the detachment returned
to Gates Camp the same day.
On the morning of the 19th Burgoyne advanced
in three columns and arriving at near Freeman's
Field was attacked by Morgan. Other troops
were detached by Gates and a severe action
continued till night, where the Americans
fell back to their camp and the British bivo
ached on the field and the next day com
menced fortifying a camp.]

In his account of the 2d Battle the judge
says, "on the 7th of October about 10 clock All
the royal army commenced their march and
formed their line of battle on our left near
Behmus heights with Genl Frazer at their
head. Our pickets were driven in &c about
1 oclock PM. at this moment commenced a
tremendous discharge of cannon ~~and~~ and musketry. For
30 or 40 minutes the struggle at the breast
works was maintained with great obstinacy"
"Several charges with fired bayonets were made
by the British grenadiers, with but little
effort" Morgan hung upon the left wing
of the retreating enemy. The principal part of
the ground on which this hard days work
was done is known by the name of Freeman
farms. One lot of about 6 or 8 acres was
cleared and fired. On their shot the

Feby
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The Judge
very
inaccu
rate

grenadiers under Maj. Adand made a stand and brought together some of their field artillery.” &c [By and examination of Wilkinson’s account and Burgoyne’s plans of the action, it will be seen that the judge is far from accurate. The British were not found on the left of the Americans, but about ½ a mile north of the American lines. Gen. Frazer did not command: Burgoyne ~~and~~ Ridezet & Phillips were in the field. Frazer commanded the right of the line and before he was wounded returned into the rear of the left where Acklands grenadiers were posted followed by Morgan & Dearborn who had attacked the British right. No part of the action was fought on Freeman’s Farm but to the west and southwest of it. See Burgoyne’s plans, and Wilkinsons account. who was present. I have examined the ground with Burgoynes plans in my hand, and can point out the whole of the ground occupied by the British corps. Judge Woodruffs account is confused and very incomplete] He says also, “that Smyth house in the meadow was Burgoyne’s head quarters for several days previous to the battle of the 7th Octr.” Which is incorrect His quarters were on the heights in the rear of the main British Line about ¾ a mile perhaps SW of Smith house. Woodruffs account of the wound of Frazer is in correct. He had dismounted his horse when he was wounded. The British had no works to cover them where the action commenced; but the troops were in an open field, escepting a part of Frazers command, on the right of the line. The works which Arnold attacked after the British left there

Feby 16	<u>first position</u> , were on a rise of Ground to the SW of Freeman's field. The judge gives one account of the attack on Breyman's hill on the extreme right of Burgoyne's line. Nor is his account of Arnold's wound correctly given The judge may have seen him soon after and assisted in "getting him into a litter."
Remarks on the details	Judge Woodruff must have been a lad at the time, and probably saw but a part of the Battle; he may recollect what <u>he saw</u> ; but I never met with a soldier who had been in an engagement who could detail the <u>whole</u> that occurred My respect for Col. Stone's work makes me regret that so inaccurate an account should have been inserted in it. In my manuscript account of Burgoyne's campaign, I have given accounts details of the two actions with plans, which I have submitted to the examination of Gov. Brooks, who was present and commanded Jackson's Massachusetts regiment in both actions, and distinguished himself throughout both the days. And moreover I have examined the grounds with Burgoyne's plans in my hand, in company of an intelligent gentleman who saw part of the second battle and visited the grounds the next day.
17	<u>Sunday</u> Cloudy foggy day & warm, small breeze from North the day warm
18	<u>Monday</u> Cloudy morn Ground whitened with snow last night. Fair at noon wind North. Ground bare & muddy.

Feby 18	Account of the murder of Major Hopkins and others on fourteen mile Island, in Lake George, from Stones Life of Brant. Vol. 2 page 64.
Stone's Brant	<p>In one of my rambles at and about Lake George I have noticed this barbarous affair (see page 268 of my sketch book No 6). My account was obtained from Gentlemen of Glens Falls and Caldwell, who supposed the murder was committed wholly by In dians. The substance of the account in Stone, is as follows</p> <p>In the spring of 1780 a party under Brant, captured a number of prisoners in the Scho harie County, one of whom was Capt Alexan der Harper. The prisoners were conducted to Niaga, thence by a Tory guard to Montreal, Quebec & thence to Halifax. On the passage to Montreal a savage tory named <u>Barney Cane</u> related the account of his killing Maj. Hopkins and his party on <u>Diamond Island</u> (Lake George The Island was that called <u>fourteen mile</u> Island, a mistake of Cane). "A party of pleasure, (as he stated) had been visit ing the island on a little sailing excur sion, and having lingered longer upon that beautiful spot than they were con scious of, as night drew on, conducted to encamp for the night it being already too late to return to the fort. "From the shore where we lay hid, (said Cane) it was easy to watch their motions; and perceiving their defenseless situation, as soon as it was dark we set off for the island where we found them asleep by their fire, and discharged our guns among them. Several were killed</p>
Murder of Major Hopkins & party by Cane Vol 2 p. 64	

Feby
18

Barbarous relation of the
[]

among whom was one woman, who had a sucking child, which was not hurt. This we put to the breast of its dead mother and so we left it. But Major Hopkins was only wounded, his thigh being broken; he started from his sleep to a rising position, when I struck him, with the butt of my gun, on the side of his head, he fell over, but caught on one hand; I then knocked the other way, when he caught with the other hand; an third blow, and I laid him dead. There were all scalped, except ~~and~~ the babe which was hanging and sobbing at the bosom of its lifeless mother. In the morning a party from the fort went and brought away the dead, together with one they found alive, although he was scalped.”
Taken by Stone from Gen. Patchin’s Narrative. It does not appear from the account that Cane’s party were Indians; but as the Indian [—] were often commanded by Tories, ~~and under the circumstances~~ there is no doubt that they were Indians, according to the accounts given to me.
Many of these Tories from the frontiers of the state of New-York, were men of the most barbarous dispositions and delighted in scenes of blood; in fact they were more ferocious than the Indians. Many similar scenes are recorded in Stone’s work. Whether Brant used all his influence to mitigate them is a question of some importance to his character. Instances occurred in which he relieved the distressed in some measure; but it is said he had not the power to prevent them in all cases, if however so disposed.

Feb 19

Tuesday Fair day Wind south,
but veered to NW before noon Sky hazy
towards night

Spontaneous Ignition of Ashes

Ashes
take
fire
spontan
neously

On the 10th of January last I erected a stove in my sitting room and closed the opening of an iron fire place with a board screen. The ashes in the fire place were shoved back that they might not be in contact with the screen, The stove pipe was about 7 feet, and passed through a hole in the screen after three elbow turns, and then the smoke ascended the chimney.

Yesterday the screen took fire, and on taking it down, I found the mass of ashes, nearly all on fire, giving out a pretty strong heat. On opening them the fire was found to be diffused through every part, and the coals buried in them completely ignited; and so the mass continued for several hours. After the erection of the stove I had, in a few instances deposited ~~the~~ ashes in the fire place from the stove; but this was always done in the morning when no fire was perceived among them. But probably fire might have escaped from the stove through the pipe into the fire place; it is probable also that soot may have fallen among the ashes. But if fire had escaped through the pipe & communicated with the ashes, how come it to ignite the whole, unless the ashes had been moved

Feby
19

not only the coals, but the ashes were of a shining red color nearly all fire. I was aware that instances of the ignition of ashes had occurred, and was willing to try an experiment, as I thought there would be no danger should they take fire, the screen being in contact with the iron fire place only. Instances of this kind I believe are more frequent than are supposed, and no doubt buildings are often fired by depositing ashes in wooden vessels then ignited.

Explanation
of by
D. Cox

In the 1st Vol. of Coxe's Eomporium of art and sciences, I find a long dissertation on Spontaneous Combustion, from which it appears that many substances will take fire by chemical operations; and among others ashes newly burnt. The following explanation is given of the process.

"As many of our common combustible matters contain sulpheric salts, it may happen that in their combustion there is sometimes accidentally found some pyrophoric matter, which remains in the residuum of the combination; especially if the combustibles matter is not entirely consumed, and if a part of it only is reduced to charcoal; which sometimes happens in fire places where the combustibles are not burnt in grates, and where the ashes are not separated from the charcoal. There have been instances of houses being set on fire by ashes intermixed with charcoal taken too soon from the hearth and deposited in places where they were surrounded by combustibles

Feby 19

which they set fire to by spontaneous ~~inflation~~ inflammation. Happily these causes of fires rarely occur; for pyrophorus does not long retain its property of inflaming, and it is often decomposed soon after it has been formed, without being able to produce that disagreeable event. Care, however, ought always to be taken not to put ashes newly burnt and which are still mixed with

Other
Substances

charcoal, in places where they may have a communication with combustibles”—It is further stated that “there are many vegetable substances which by torrefaction acquire an increase of their property to inflame spontaneously if in closed in bags of cloth, which leave them in contact with the surrounding atmosphere. of this kind are saw dust burnt coffe, the [] of [] and fruits of leguminous plants, such as beans, lentils, pease &c.

“There have been instances of fires breaking out in stables by a bag of torrefied bean, applied to the neck of a diseased animal, and which inflamed spontaneously.”

If the foregoing are facts, they should be known to all, and guarded against.

20

Wednesday. Morning cloudy and Wind south. Sun out occasionally; but cloudy most the day. Snow nearly gone.

- Feb 21 Thursday Fair morn with some thin clouds- Northerly breeze but nearly calm at night rain commenced.
We hear that the bridge between the west abutment and the eastern pier of Sunderland bridge fell a few day ago. About 200 sheep were on that part of the bridge at the time, and 15 or 20 were killed or wounded; advance of cattle had just passed and a loaded waggon. It is supposed the bridge received some damage in the late freshet. We have now no bridge over the Connecticut between Northampton and Brattleborough, and of course our trade to Boston is embarrassed. Bridges over this river are expensive, and it is to be regretted they cannot be more permanently built and rendered safe against the tremendous ice floods which occur in New-England.
- 22 Friday Cloudy morn the ground whetened with snow. Wind North. The day continued Cloudy, with a little rain and fog on the mountains~
- Bucklands Geology and Minerology considered with reference to Natural Theology.
Geology By Rev. William Buckland Dd. 2 Vol. 8 vo the 2d containing 87 plates, and 705 figures. This work, I believe, is the last of the Bridge water Treatises & printed in London 1836.
- To the philosophical community this is an important work and cannot fail of impressing the enlightened mind with additional proofs “of the continuous Being and of many of the highest attributes of the one Living & True God.” Dr Buckland

Febby 22

from the myriads of the petrified Remains which are disclosed by the researches of Geology, adopts the opinion that our planet has been occupied in times preceding the Creation of the Human Race, by extinct species of Animals and Vegetables, made up, like living Organic Bodies, of Clusters of Contrivances which demonstrate the exercise of stupendous Intelligence and Power.

In his Chapters treating of the proofs of design, in the structures of Fossil animals of various kinds, he introduces much technology, which is embarrassing to those who are ~~unacquainted~~ not familiar with [] terms of zoology, anatomy, Botany, mineralogy & Geology. But notwithstanding the difficulty, much is found in the work for enquiring minds.

The 2d Vol. consists principally of descriptions of the plates, one of which (the 1st) consists of an [] Section constructed to [] by the insertion of names & colours the relative positions of the most important classes both of unstratified & stratified rocks, as far as they have been ascertained.

Hitch
cocks
ornith
ichnites

The 26th plate exhibits the foot marks of several extinct species of birds, found in the New Red sandstone of the valley of the Connecticut, from Professor Hitchcock's ornithichnites, I suppose from the Greek, according to the learned whim of the times, and means simply the foot marks of Birds in stone. Dr Buckland

Feb 22

Buckland's opinion
on Moses' account.

endeavors to reconcile Geological [—] [—] facts with sacred history. It is says he, no where affirmed by Moses, that God created the heaven and earth in the first day, but in the beginning: this beginning may have been an epoch at an unmeasured distance, followed by periods of undefined direction, during which all the physical operations disclosed by Geology were going on~ Millions of millions of years, he says, may have occupied the indefinite interval between the beginning in which God created the heaven and the earth, and the evening or commencement of the first day of the mosaic narrative. (page 21, Vol. 1)

Tehor
ries

How far the Dr has supported his position the reader will judge. But it seems now to be agreed by the present enlightened Geologists that our Earth & the Heavens did not commence at the time it has generally been supposed it did from Moses' account; and perhaps the question as relates to the time they were created is not of the importance that has been attached to it. That they had a beginning, and was the curious countenance of a great and intelligent agent, or cause, is generally admitted by men of sound minds. Some indeed profess to believe that the universe has existed in its present form, from eternity. But if this were true, I cannot divest myself of the belief that it could not have continued eternally, without an intelligent and superintending power. If the eternal existence of an intelligent primum

Febby
22

mobile, who made and governs the universe, be, a mystery beyond our comprehension still it is more consonant to our modes of thinking than the supposition that inanimate matter with all its properties and adaptations should have had that existence, and without design: And when one of two mysteries is to be adopted, that which appears the least so, is to be chosen. The work is valuable.

23

Saturday. The morning cloudy snow last night about an inch. Sun out at noon- wind North. The new snow nearly dissolved, and roads muddy

Maine
Hostile
measures
of

Hostile operations on the Eastern frontier of Maine.

A party of British subjects had been engaged in cutting and removing timber on the Aroostock River on our side of the line; the Gov. of Maine sent a Sherriff with a posse of 200 men to ~~and~~ seize the intruders, on a civil warrant. but before the sherriff arrived at the place they fled to the British side of the line. The Land Agent of Maine accompanied the Sherriff & his party, and having ~~invited to~~ taken quarters at the house of a settler on the American side of the line, ~~took his quarters~~ for night, distant from the Sherriffs party. In the night a party of British subjects surrounded the house, seized the land agent,

Febby
23

carried him to Fredicktown and committed him to Prison. The Gov. of Main, we are informed, has ordered a detachment of 1000 militia to advance to the line, and the Gov. of New Brunswick has ordered about the same number into the field. Dispatches have been sent to the President of the U. States and to our Governor, disclosing the proceedings. What will be the result is uncertain. I think however no fighting. Should the two Governments come in collision, in this dispute about a tract of land, of little worth to either it would be another instance of the folly of nations.

24

Sunday Cloudy morn Wind South
sun shine in the afternoon, but most
of the day cloudy.

25

Monday- Rainy Morn and fog covering the mountains- a breeze from the North. Clouds broke away at night.
Parker's Exploring Tour beyond the Rocky Mountains, which I purchased of the author as mentioned on page 17, I have perused with some care.

Notice
of Parker's
Tour.

It appears the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, appointed an exploring mission to that Country to ascertain, by personal observation, the condition and character of the Indian nations and tribes, and the facilities for introducing the gospel and civilization

Feb 25

Geology of
OregonContracted
Theology

among them. Mr Parker engaged in the service, and proceeding up the Missouri reaches the American Containment Leaven worth; and joins a Caravan of traders proceeded to the west through the Rocky mountains, in a remarkable pass, which the author thinks suitable for a Railroad. The tour is written in good style, and evinces considerable knowledge of the interesting topics of the times. He treats often upon the Geology of the Country, which he thinks presents one vast scene of igneous or volcanic formation, particularly on the west side of the mountains. The Indians on that side are presented as generally peaceable hospitable and kind; and only want the arts, sciences, and Christianity, to render them worthy and happy. Mr Parker is strictly orthodox in his religious sentiments and, it is presumed, would admit [] the natives no system that did not embrace the repulsive dogmas of that sect. And we now and then find him exposing his [] system ~~himself~~ in turns like the following. Speaking of the want of Christian enterprise in propagating the Gospel, he says, "But this want of Christian enterprise, characterized by the late period in which it is begun, and carried forward with slow and faltering steps, is not only to be lamented as a blot upon the Christian name, but incomparably more is it to be lamented that in consequence generation after generation of heathen, to say nothing

Feby
25

Missionary plans.

of the thousands who are trafficking among them are left in their ignorance of the Savior to perish eternally." page 176.

That there should be supineness in men of sense, in "carrying forward" a system of religion, which continues a scheme so inconsistent with the benevolent attributes of the Deity, is not strange; and if any benefits can be derived from missionaries of this order among the Indians, it must be from the arts and sciences they impart to them, rather than their religious notions.

In his chapter (16th) on Geology, Mr Parker combats the system of our enlightened Geologists as regards the cosmogony of Moses, and the existence of the world prior to that epoch. In conversation with Professor Hitchcock, on this Chapter, he expressed his regret that Mr Parker wrote it before he had made a more thorough examination of Geology~

Mr Parker gives many of the customs & habits of the Indians, and the amount of the population of the tribes. How he has obtained the latter does not appear. His book is a useful document and worthy of note, as regards the geography of the Country west of the Rocky Mountains. Should the American Board of Commissioners station missionaries in the Oregon territory it is hoped they will infuse among the natives, not only useful instruction of the arts but a rational system of Religion.

Feb 26	<p><u>Tuesday</u> Morn fair. No snow in our valley except in small patches. Win N.W. Roads muddy & difficult to pass. Afternoon Cloudy, and warm Thursday Mr C.T. Arms tapped his street maples & the sap ran freely- wind veered to S.E.</p> <p><u>Father Marquette</u>. In 10th Vol. of Spark's American Biography we find a brief account of this Jesuit and of his travels in the western country.</p>
Marquettes Tour	<p>On the 13th of May 1673, he and M. Joliet with five Frenchmen, in 2 canoes proceeded from Michillimackinac to Green Bay on the west side of Lake Michigan; there up Fox River & over the portage to the Wisconsin and down the last to the Mississippi, where they arrived the 17th June. After a months voyage down the river they arrived at <u>Akamoca</u> (Supposed Arkansas) in the 34th degree of Lat. They then returned up the Mississippi to the mouth of Illinois, and up that River to Lake Michigan, and thence up the Lake to Green bay, or <u>Bay of Puans</u>, where they arrived near the end of September, having been absent four months. The whole distance from Green Bay and back on their route is now estimated at 2549 miles</p>
Note De Soto saw the River 1540, See Bancroft history	<p>Marquette remained among the Indians in the neighborhood of Chicago, and in 1675 died suddenly at the mouth of a River on the east side of Michigan</p>

Febby
26

Sparks Marquette

now known by the name of Marquette where it is said his grave, near its bank, is still pointed out to the traveler. His journal was sent to France where it was published. Joliet separated from Marquette at Green Bay and proceeded to Montreal. In passing the rapids just before he reached that city, his canoe was upset and his journal and all his other papers were lost. Sparks has given Marquette's map of his route, which he says is the first that was ever given of the Mississippi. Other rivers entering it, are marked. This map was published in Paris 1681.

The Missouri is named in the Narrative Pekitanonsi; but in the map a village is placed on the bank of that river, called Oumissouri. The Ohio is named Ouabouquigou; Lake Michigan is called Lake Illinois. Numerous tribes of Indians are noticed.

The enterprising spirit of the Jesuits of Canada in early times, was extraordinary. Some of them were contented with their situations among the rude tribes of the conveniences of civilized life and the arts and sciences in which they had been instructed in Europe. The propagation of the Roman Catholic Religion no doubt was part of their design; but it is believed their taste for discovery was not less so. This taste is natural to men of science, and often so irresistible that danger and hardship cannot abate it.

<p>Feb'y 27</p>	<p><u>Wednesday</u>. Cloudy morn; snow fell last night about 1 ½ or 2 inches. Wind S. Sun shine at noon Afternoon cloudy. Last night a Corn house of Wells & Richard</p>
<p>Fire</p>	<p>Dickinson took fire and was consumed ashes had been deposited in a wooden box from which, it is supposed, the fire was kindled; probably another in stance of Spontaneous combustion.</p>
<p><u>Maine</u> Militia force in the field</p>	<p><u>Maine Proceedings</u> Accounts from Maine say 1700 militia are now posted on the Aroostock River, and are fortifying for the purpose of holding the Country against any force the British may send to recover it and that the Main forces have captured the Land agent of New Brunswick, & sent him to Bangor. Another force of 1000 men, it is said, is advancing to the Aroostock to sustain the advanced force. The difficulty I think will be adjusted without much, if any, fighting. The dispute between the two governments</p>
<p>Re marks</p>	<p>is too trifling to justify this ultimatum. Have decision of the King of the Netherlands been adopted, both governments ought to have been satisfied The attempt to hold the disputed Country with a <u>militia</u> at such a distance from their homes, is precarious, expensive, and is one of the crude notions of our militia advocates who think a <u>cockade</u> and a <u>feather</u> make the soldier.</p>

<p>Febry 20</p> <p>Close of Winter Quarter</p>	<p><u>Thursday.</u> Cloudy & foggy morn. Air calm. Fair at Noon & north wind, the snow nearly gone. Cloudy at night.</p> <p>This day closes the winter quarter, during which we have had very little snow, and most of the months of January & February the ground has been nearly bare. No very cold weather has occurred since the 1st of January, though sufficient to bridge our rivers with ice, and we have had but a short time for sled ing wood, of course I shall be short of a stock for the summer, unless favored with snow in March. The damage sustained from the sudden rise of our Rivers on the 27th of Jany has been great to Bridges canals & dams. and large sums of money will be wanted for their repair.</p>
<p>March 1</p> <p>1839</p> <p>2</p>	<p><u>Friday.</u> Fair morning Wind N.W. and air colder than has been several days past, The day fair throughout.</p> <p><u>Saturday.</u> Morn fair Wind South. snow <u>squall</u> in the forenoon.</p>
<p><u>Maine</u> proceed ings</p>	<p><u>Maine War or Army</u> of the Frontier. By a Boston paper of the 27th ult. we learn that the detachment of Maine militia is posted in township No. 10 in the 5th Range, at the junction of St Croix & Aroostook Rivers where they have erected a log work and mounted it with artillery. Gov. Fairfield has issued a Genl. Order of the 19th Ult. directing a detach ment of 10,343 men from the State to hold themselves in readiness for an immediate call into the service of the state. At Houlton 2 companies</p>

March
2

Maine
Militia

And
Bound
ary

of U States troops are posted, but have no orders to act with the Main Militia. That place is said to be 120 miles from Bangor; and the militia Camp at township No. 10 is estimated at 135 from the same City. A road is cut out from Bangor to Houlton & to the militia Camp, and partially constructed.

The British are assembling their forces at or near Tobique on the Eastside of the St. Johns. The two armies probably will remain on their respective sides of the disputed line, and thereby give time for further negotiations, which I think will terminate in an adjustment of the disputed boundary.

The paper contains the letters which have passed between the Gov. of main & Lt Gov Sir John Harvey of N. Brunswick & other officers, relating to the movements. The President of the U States has as yet made no communication, relating to affair, to Congress. He will no doubt act with caution, and if possible avoid a War with the British nation; and the critical state of affairs at this time in the Canadas, will no doubt induce them to act with like caution~ If both governments are amicably disposed the dispute may be settled at once, and advantage easily to both.

The position chosen by the Maine force is about 15 miles west of the west line of the township laid out by Mr Shepard & myself

March
2
Maine

for Deerfield and Westfield Academies in 1805, then a wild forest, and not claimed by the British. On what grounds they now claim the Country I cannot see. If the treaty of 1783 be the basis, it appears to me there is little room for dispute. A meridian Line down from the head of Schoodic or St Croix river, to the high lands which divide the waters flowing into the St Lawrence from those running into the Atlantic is not ambiguous no line could be better defined. To determine the line ~~on~~ along these highlands is more difficult, yet practicable. This line probably is zig zag and no doubt would be made less so established argument of the two nations. But the difficulty on the part of the British grows out of another circumstance. The meridian Line from the head of the St Croix angles the St John, and cuts off from N Brunswick the water route from that Province to the St Lawrence, by which route the British mail is conveyed. In conversation with Mr [] the Surveyor General of N Brunswick when I was at [] in 1805, he expressed no doubts concerning the location of the line as described in the treaty of 1783; but expressed his wish that, by exchange or otherwise, the British could have the privilege of the water passage for its mail. Not able to effect this arrangement, the British government, now pretends to find difficulties in running the line, and have laid claim to the Country as far south as Mars hill township, pretending to find a chain of highland, extending there westerly, which they say is the high land described in the treaty of 1783. But if such a claim of

Brit
ish
Mail
route

March
2
Maine

highland could be found, it would not be that which divides the waters that flow into the St Lawrence from those running into the Atlantic.

Proposed
Boundary for
Maine

If the British Government are desirous of varying the Boundary from the treaty of 1783, and of retaining the mail route to Canada, it must be done by compromise and not as a matter of right. Let it then propose an equivalent. The following I think would be an equitable boundary. Viz From the NE part of schooder Lake the line to extend directly to Eel Lake; then down the lake & outlet of that Lake to the St Johns; thence up the middle of St Johns River to the point where our claimed line strikes it, above the grand falls; thence continuing up that River to the Madawasha River, so called on Coffins map of the Public Lands; thence west on the latitude of the mouth of this river to the highlands pointed out in the treaty, and along the said highlands to the head of the Connecticut; and thence as described in said treaty.

This boundary would leave out a considerable tract of land which we claim north of the St Johns, for which we should receive in exchange the narrow strip of settled country on the west side of that River. It might also be equitable for the British government to allow us the privilege of navigating the St Johns to its mouth and a free passage up and down the River with water craft.

3
Sunday Morn fair snow last night
about an inch wind N.W. air cold
most of the day fair

4
Monday Fair & cold morning. Wind NW.
and clear day. Snow melts south of buildings.

March 4	This day we hold town meeting for the annual choice of town officers- an old practice before the revolution.
5	<u>Tuesday</u> Morn Sun out occasionally wind N.W. most of the day the sky clear.
Maine Affairs	Accounts from the Aroostook up to 22d ulto. state that Mr [] had marched with a portion of the force to <u>Fish River</u> , a branch of the St Johns, to arrest the trespassers in that quarter and that a party had been sent down to the mouth of the Aroostook to protect the lumber on that River; and that the British forces are stationed about 4 miles from the disputed lands, their number about 500. On the 26 ulto. the President made a communication to Congress reacting to the to the <u>boundary</u> dispute. The matter is conciliatory & it is hoped will bring about an adjustment of the difficulty.
Congress proceed ings on	On the 27 th ult. the Committee of Congress to whom was submitted the Presidents message, reported among other things, "(3) That Main has a perfect right to protect the property from the depredations of trespassers" and (5) If main does not withdraw her force as soon as they are unnecessary for purposes of protection, she will have forfeited all claim to the military aid of the General Government. The report also declares that if the British authorities shall attempt to remove the <u>Main</u> forces, while engaged in the removal of the trespassers, the emergency will have occurred when under the Constitution, it will be the duty of the President " <u>to repel invasion</u> " If Congress sanctions this Report and the British shall push a force into the

March
 5
 Maine

disputed territory, they and we shall
 come in to collision; but if Main continues
 her force there after [] off the trespass
 sers, she must fight her battles without
 the aid of the United States. A crisis, I
 think she will avoid if her Govern
 ment is wise.

6 Wednesday Fair day- wind south
 snow nearly gone

7 Thursday Fair day; wind south
 and air warm.

8 Friday Fair morn- wind North
 late in the afternoon cloudy, attended
 with fog, and the weather warm.

9 Saturday. Cloudy morn rain last
 night Wind SW. Sun out part of the day
 but the Heavens generally hazy: Air warm
 various spring birds have arrived.

10 Sunday Morning fair but hazy
 wind S. last night cold. Most of the
 day was fair, very clear and fine

11 Monday. Fair day wind NW.

12 Tuesday Fair day wind North
 & very pleasant weather. The ground
 considerably {—} dried & good walking
 on our side ways.

13 Wednesday Fair though hazy winds
 most of the day clear.

14 Thursday Cloudy morn with
 some rain. Wind NW. Most of
 day fair with brisk wind & cold at
 night

March 14	<p>The <u>Annual Register of Indian Affairs</u> within the Indian Territory. Published by Isaac McCoy of the Shawanas Baptist Mission, 1838.</p>
Annual Register of Indians	<p>This is the 4th number of the work, and contains 96 octavo pages. It contains much important information of the Indigenous and Emigrant tribes on the west of the Mississippi, some of whom are considerably advanced in civilization. The <u>Choctaw</u> Country board ing south on Red River; east on Arkansas, and N. on the Arkansas & Canadian river, seems to be in the most advanced state of improvement. The people have adopted a written Constitution of Government similar to the Constitution of the U States, and have an elective Legislature, and enacted laws. Regular debates are carried on and good order maintained in the assembly. Next to these maybe ranked the <u>Chickasaws</u> and the Cherokees. The <u>Osages</u> are represented as the most uncivilized, and as rather miserable. The work seems to be intended to justify the proceedings of our Government in the removal of the Indians, which the writer thinks will be great service to the tribes: It is worth a perusal, and on the whole, I think, is useful.</p> <p>If this removal of the Indians shall ultimately be of benefit to them, still the <u>compelling</u> them to move will not be justified by the result.</p>
15	<p><u>Friday Morn</u>, thin Clouds & sun shine</p>
Maine	<p>Wind South most of day clear & cool.</p> <p>Congress has at length closed its session</p>

March
15
Maine
&
Congress

and the members commenced their march homewards, after adopting spirited measures relating to the boundary in dispute. A large majority of the members were found up to the War point, and ready to fight, if Great Britain persists in her claim to the disputed lands in Main. The President is authorized to accept of volunteer troops and commence the war on the failure of negotiations, by a special Minister to be sent to England.

Our
want
of mili
tary
force

But where is our military force to carry on the War? Why, it is to be created from our farmers and mechanics

[____], and marched to the field without discipline, to cross Bayonets with veteran troops. The improvidence of Congress in relation to a militia force in time of peace, may now appear. Speaking of raw troops for war, Washington says. To bring them to a proper degree of subordination, is not the work of a day, a month, or a year; and he expresses his entire want of confidence on undisciplined troops in the field, in the following language "If I were called upon to declare upon oath, whether the militia have been more serviceable or hurtful on the whole I should subscribe to the latter." See his Letter written to the old Congress, from N York in 1776. in Spark's Washington Letters.

Wash
ington
on a
militia

I rejoice to see a spirit in Congress

March
15
Congress

that indicates due resistance to foreign encroachment & injustice; but I regret to behold a want of a disposition in them to prepare a force in time of peace, that may at least, protect their Capitol from the ravages of a small floating force in time of war. I hope we shall never see a reiteration of the Bladensburg scene, the genuine fruit of this improvidence, I may say stupidity, of our Congress in 1814~

16
17
18

Saturday Morning hazy sky & sun shone
Wind South Afternoon sun but seldom seen.
Sunday Fair morn Wind West
and NW. afternoon cloudy & fair Alternately
Monday Cloudy morn a sprinkling of snow
last night Wind N. Some rain during the day
& mountains covered with fog~

Maine
and
British
forces

It has been reported that it was the intention of the British to fortify Marshall; but it is believed to be erroneous. Other accounts say the Sir John Harvey is engaged in sending troops up the St Johns to the Grand falls, where all his troops are to be []. It is reported also that regiment of regulars had arrived at Madawaska from Quebec; and that our Col Jarvis had selected a strong position on the Aroostook & is building a boom across the river, his encampment within 2 miles of the line.

Mar's hill is one of a cluster situated near the centre of a township of that name, laid out by Massachusetts, for the Continental Soldiers of the Mass Line.

March
18

Mar's
Hill

It is a high rocky peak, overlooking the adjacent Country, and covered with fir, hemlock and moss. In 1805 accompanied by Mr Warham Shepard & a surveying party, I ascended the hill and climbing one of the large hemlocks, had an extensive view to NW. west and SW. The country about the hill appeared level; but in the NW a high range of hills were seen to extend from NE to SW in which were several conical peaks. The chain of hills which the British say extend from Mars hill westward were not seen. Nor do I believe it exists.

This hill well fortified no doubt would afford a strong post; but what advantage would such a post, surrounded with wood & about 6 miles from St John's River be to the British in the present contest? No competent Engineer, I think, would select it, in the present State of the Country for either nation.

Indian
Name of

An Indian whom we engaged to assist us in carrying our baggage gave the name Quaqua-Joses to Mars hill, with which he appeared well acquainted as well as with the neighboring Country, which he pointed out to me from the top of the hemlock which we ascended, as mentioned above.

The range of Mountains seen in the NW I think must be those mentioned in the treaty of 1783, as the boundary between Maine and Canada.

19

Tuesday. Cloudy day Wind North
Ground rather muddy.

March 19 Illinois Rail Roads	<p>By papers from Vandalia forwarded by my son, it appears there is considerable opposition in the Legislature to the prosecution of the internal improvements in Illinois but a majority are determined to go on; and to lessen the wages of the Engineers. A Bill is before the Legislature to appoint a <u>Chief Engineer</u> for the Rail roads of the State, at a Salary of 2500 dollars for annum, he to defray his expences: of course the wages of all other Engineers or assistants will be considerably lowered. If this Bill passes my son thinks he shall be in Deerfield in May, June or July next, his present wages (3000 dollars) will not permit him to submit to such reduction. Perhaps the wages of Engineers have been too high. In Massachusetts frozen they have been, and are, higher than in Illinois~ The construction of rail roads between important points in the State would have been of utility, but multiplied as they are, it appears to me they will not be found very useful. By attempting too many the state may lessen the benefits of old, and contract a heavy state debt.</p>
20	<p>Wednesday. Fair day Wind North: sky hazy and thick at Night. Wind changed to south</p>
Maine affairs	<p>Affairs on the Maine boundary begin to wear a more pacific aspect. It is said Gov. Fairfield recommends a withdrawal of his troops from the Aroostook provided Sir John Harvey shall first signify a waiver of his threat to expel them by force, and that the right of Main to keep a <u>civil force</u> in the Country for the apprehension of depredators be acknowledged.</p> <p>It is hinted that Gov. Harvey has suggested to the Gov. of Main an exchange of or an equivalent for the land we claim North of the St Johns to give</p>

March 20	<p>the British a road to lower Canada, and that a free navigation of the St Johns is mentioned I hope something of this kind will be agreed on. The land lying north of the St Johns is of little worth to Main on account of its northern situation. In the year 1805 I determined the Latitude of the mouth of the <u>de Chute</u>, with a good plumb gradient, of my own construction, and found it $46^{\circ}-28'$. The mouth of the stream is nearly east of the NE angle of Mars hill town ship. The distance from the de Chute to the mouth of the Aroostook nearly north, is 15 miles or minutes. Hence $46^{\circ}-28' + 15' = 46^{\circ}-43'$ the Lat. of the mouth of the Aroostook. The Lat of Quebec is $46^{\circ}-49'$ the difference then is only 6 minutes; or 6 minutes south of the Lat. of Quebec Here it appears that all the land in dispute 6 geographic miles above the Aroostook, is North of the Lat. of Quebec. A country which never will be settled by our people; and without liberty to navigate the St Johns the timber on it, is of little worth to us. Probably my Lat. of the de Chute varies some minutes from the truth, or as when it shall be determined with an instrument which admits of nice reading of the angle of altitude by a [], and when an artificial horizon is used as with a sextant. But the error, I think, is not great.</p>
21	<p>Thursday. Morn Cloudy with fog on the mountains and a sprinkling of snow last night (or rather of hail) a breeze from North. so continued throughout the day. At $7^h-9^m-34^s$ AM, the Declination of the sun changed to North ($=0^{\circ}-4'-55.9''$ at mean noon at Greenwich) according to American Almanack, taking the Long. of Deerfield equal that of Greenfield.</p>
Sun's Declination	

March	Difference of Longitude between Greenwich
21	and Greenfield $72^{\circ}-36'..32''$, in time $4^h-50^m..26^s$
	Difference of time between Boston & Greenfield $6^m 10^s$ our
	Latitude of Greenfield, according to Paine } $42^{\circ}..35'..16''$ N
Lat. of	taken at the Brick Church ----- }
Deerfield	Do of Deerfield Academy, by a mean of }
&	several observations on the sun & stars } $42..32..32$
Greenfield	Agreeing very closely with the (Diff. $0-2-44$
	lineal distance, measured on a meridian.
	Mr Paine determined the Long. of Greenfield
	by Chronometers, and he makes it a little greater
	than our observations at Deerfield. Probably he
	is nearest to the truth.
22	<u>Friday</u> Morning cloudy and foggy as yesterday,
	and last night some lightning & thunder oc
	curred, with rain- air calm in morn
	but a breeze afternoon from North. Took a
	wagon ride into the North Meadow and
	found it chequered with the winter flood
	Ice, and the roads often obstructed by it & very
	muddy. Ponds covered with ice: consider
	able <u>silt</u> brought on in many places.
23	<u>Saturday</u> . Morn fair with North wind.
	Cloudy & sun shine alternately through the day
24	<u>Sunday</u> . Fair day wind NW.
	Sky very clear most of the time.
25	<u>Monday</u> This morning a gentle fall of
	snow- Fair about 8 A.M. wind North
	Snow disappeared before night.
26	<u>Tuesday</u> . Fair day Wind NW.
	and very fine weather.

March 26	Yesterday Obed Hoyt received a letter from my son Arthur, dated Paris March 10 th relating to the purchase of lands in this town, and it states that he contemplates a visit to Deerfield in July next. Nothing very important has occurred on the eastern boundary since our last accounts. Sir John Harvey appears to confine his military operations to the Country North of the St. Johns, for the protection of the road from N Brunswick to to Quebeck. This probably is the only part of the disputed territory the British expect to retain.
Maine accounts from	
27	<u>Wednesday</u> Morn fair & hazy Wind W. clouds of the cumulo form appear in small masses. Recd. Pamphlet from my son, containing Reports of Commissioners & Engineers of the Rail Roads &c. Illinois.
28	<u>Thursday</u> Fair but hazy Day. Wind S. partially cloudy Air warm.
29	<u>Friday</u> Cloudy & moderate rain in the Morn Wind North Day Cloudy through out and occasionally a little fall of rain.
30	<u>Saturday</u> Cloudy morn wind N. Sun occasionally out air cool. At night clear sky.
31	<u>Sunday</u> Fair day Wind N. Sky very clear
Bridge water Treatise	Kirby's History of Habits and Instincts of Animals 1 vol. 8 vo., plates; pp. 519

This work is one of the Bridgewater Treatises, on the Power, Wisdom and Goodness of God as manifested in the Creation.

After the first 3 chapters which are introductory, the authors treat of the Functions and Instinct of Animals according to the following Classification

Infusories	Crustacean Condylones
Polypes	Myriapod Condylones
Radiaries	Arachnidans
Sunicaries	Poendarachmidans
Bivalve Molluscs	Acaridan Condylones
Univalve Molluscs	Insect Condylones
Cephalopods	Fishes
Worms	Reptiles
Arachnidans	Birds
Cirripedes & Crinoids	Mammals
Entomostracan Condylones	Man

The author appears to be well acquainted with his subject and gives many curious statements of the structure and instincts of Animals, all going to show power wisdom and design in their Creator. His descriptions are full of technology, not familiar to those who have read but little on natural History in the modern treatises. His work, would have been more useful had he been more full

March
31

Kirby's History of Animals

in his explanation of terms.

In his introductory Chapters great efforts are made to bend the present phenomena to the mosaic account of the creation, and if I understand him, he is unwilling to give that account, the construction put upon it, by the most able modern Geologists. His religious system seems to be strictly orthodox and he even pretends to find arguments in favor of the trinity where the liberal Philosopher cannot see the most [] ant allusion to it. (Introduction page 70)

The deductions he draws of the power, wisdom and goodness of the Deity in the creation of Animals and in their instincts, are natural and generally sound. But to me it appears that he could not have adduced more convincing arguments against his system of orthodoxy than those he has brought forward in these deductions.

While the whole scheme of Providence in the creation of animals is in harmony with absolute benevolence, man according to this orthodox plan, is left a miserable depraved creature, born at war with Deity and justly condemned to eternal punishment, for a crime committed thousands of years previous to his birth! Such

Remark
on ortho
doxy

March
31 a system, I think can claim no place in
among the benevolent attributes of our Creator;
and as an unenlightened Theologian of this Coun
try says, "it cannot be proved to be true
till nature and life and consciousness are
all proved to be false; till the ties of af
fection are proved to be all []
and its sympathies all sorrows; till
the tenor of life is proved to be a tissue
of his, and the benevolence of nature
all mockery, and the details of human
ity all dreams and delusions."
A system so diametrically opposed to the
wisdom and goodness of God, must have
originated with bewildered minds, and will
not and cannot long continue among
an informed community.

April 1 Monday Morning fair Wind South
1839 Day clear & pleasant. air warm.
2 Tuesday Fair day Wind N.
air rather cool.
3 Wednesday Fair day wind N, gentle;
a fine day
Determination of the Corse & Distance
from Deerfield, Lat. $42^{\circ}.32'$. Long. $72^{\circ} 36'$ } W.
to Springfield 39-48 ----- 89.33 }
Diff. 2-44 16..57
1st By Solution of a Spheric \triangle
Distanced on a great Circle $13^{\circ}--01'$ = 781 geogra
phic miles= 904 $\frac{1}{2}$ statute miles allowing

April
3

allowing 69 ½ statute miles to a degree, what
is rather greater than some of the late obser-
vations give

2d By the Mercator method.	miles
Distance in Geographic miles	<u>782.4</u>
Do in Statute do	906.28
First process by Spherics	<u>904.50</u>
Diff	1.78

Course by Mercator S 77°- 54 W true Mer.
Do by needle S 85 – 54W, allow
ing 8° west variation. This line will
pass between Paris and Danville in Illinois
according to their positions as laid down
in the maps.

	miles
Distance easterly from Springfield to Decator	37.5
Decator do to Sidney	47.75
Sidney do to Danville	<u>23.75</u>
Lat. of Philadelphia 39°--57	} <u>Total</u> 109,00
Do of Springfield <u>39° 48</u>	
Diff 00-9	Springfield is

Extent
of
Illinois

therefore nearly west from Philadelphia
The State of Illinois extends from the mouth
of Ohio, Lat. 37° to the south line of Wiscon-
sin Lat. 42°-30', giving a meridian length
of 380 miles, a few miles greater than the
difference of the Lat. of Petersburg in Virginia
and Deerfield; and from 145 to 220 miles
is width. An area of 32 millions of acres
is said to be capable of cultivation.

From Sur-
face of Lake
Michigan to
foot of rapids
on the Illinois
fall
141,87
feet
(Mither)

What a state! If it becomes salubrious
it will be one of the first tracts in the
Union; and no better land is found
in America. From many circumstances
and appearances it is probably that much
of the surface was once the bed of a Lake, as well

April	as part of Indiana and Ohio
3	When the Canal from Chicago to the Illinois is completed, a <u>boat</u> may enter the St Lawrence proceed through the lakes to Chicago; then down the Canal & the Illinois to the Mississippi; thence down the last River to the Gulf of Mexico, and thence by sea to the mouth of the St Lawrence; circumscribing most of the United States. A similar circuit may be made from the City of N York (A Grand water route!)
Canal	
4	<u>Thursday</u> Fair day a breeze from North Fine & pleasant day. Air Warm; thermometer up to 72° (maximum)
5	<u>Friday</u> Fair day and small wind from North. Warm & pleasant Lilock Buds begin to open.
6	<u>Saturday</u> Cloudy morn; fog caps the mountains; wind South Most of the day fair & hazy.
7	<u>Sunday</u> Morn hazy & wind South Day hazy, but sun out occasionally and air warm
8	<u>Monday</u> Fair day NW wind & cool Sky very clear Roads dry but still front on the ground. In a Detroit Paper of February last
<u>Lands of the Great Lakes</u>	is a Topographical/Geological Report by S.W. Higgins, from which the elevation of the great lakes are seen above tide waters of the Ocean Viz Ontario 232 feet. Erie 565, Lakes Huron & Michigan 578 Lake Superior 596 The ascent from L Ontario to Erie= 333; from

April 8	<p>L Erie L Huron 13~ And from Huron & Michigan through the falls of St Mary to L Superior 18 feet‡. Therefore the Report says, Of a barrior 18 feet high, existed across the foot of Lake Huron, near fort Gratiot, lakes Huron and Michigan would rise to a level with Lake Superior. On a 31 feet dam at Buffalo at foot of Lake Erie, would reduce the 4 lakes to one, or place them on the same level.(Viz Erie, Huron, Michigan & Superior) And this rise would carry the waters of Michigan Lake over the summit, on the Illinois canal, down Illinois river to the Mississippi. This probably was once the course of these waters.</p>
Other Levels	<p>The following heights are given of the high ground south of Lake Erie & others, Portage Summit at <u>Akron</u> on Ohio Canal 395 feet above L Erie. The deep out 28 miles E to of Columbus 72 feet less than Portage Summit At Portsmouth on the Ohio where the canal terminates 474 feet above tide water, and 94 feet below L Erie. At Summit of Maumee canal, at fort Defiance, 90 feet above L Erie, Summit west of Chicago, on the Canal line, 17 feet (above quine). Some of the levels given by Mr. Higgins, differ considerably from the Statements of others.</p>
New Gazetteer of Michi gan.	<p>The same Paper announces a New Gazetteer of Michigan of 418 pages 12 mo. By John T Blois, with new type, neatly bound.</p>

‡From levels taken by General Gratiot it appears Lake Superior is 22 ½ feet above Lake Huron=600 ½ above tide water

April 9	<u>Tuesday</u> Fair day Wind North A fine day The roads are nearly dry & afford good travelling
10	<u>Wednesday</u> Fair & hazy day with wind from South. At night Cloudy.
11	<u>Thursday</u> . Cloudy morn with a little rain, the wind south. Sun occasionally out in forenoon~
12	<u>Friday</u> Rainy morn with N.E. wind and foggy and so continued through the day <u>Mississippi</u> Under this article in the 13 Vol. Edinburg Encyclopaedia page 624, Mr Darby says, "A very remarkable difference is perceptible between different elevations of Pittsburg above Chesapeake Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, amounting to more than <u>125 feet</u> in favor of the former shot of water." This he accounts for by supposing the waters of the Gulf to be that height above those of Chesapeake. He calculates the current of the Gulf stream at 1 ½ inch per mile which for 900 miles would yield 112 ½ feet, and he assumes 100 feet as the probable difference of which he thinks there can be no doubt From some late surveys made across the isthmus of Darien, it appears there is little difference in the height, of the waters on the Atlantic & Pacific sides of the American Continent, and therefore that Darby's hypothesis is doubtful. If Darby is correct, would not the difference in the height of the two occurs at Darien be at best 100 feet? The descent of the Mississippi from its

Different levels of the ocean
as supposed by Darby.

April 12	<p>source to its mouth has not been been determined. Mr Schoolcraft <u>estimates</u> it at 1330 feet, but this cannot be relied on as exact. The mouth of the Ohio is estimated at from 320 to 340 above tide water in Chesapeake Bay, but this is also doubtful.</p> <p>At Portsmouth on the Ohio, at the junction of the Ohio Canal, the height above tidewater is stated at 474 feet-91 feet below Lake Erie Hence $474-320=154$ the fall to mouth of Ohio: or $474-340=134$ the fall. (doubtful).</p>
Ohio River	
Lake Erie	<p>The height of Lake Erie above tidewater at Albany (565 feet) is no doubt accurately determined by the Canal surveys and making that Lake the plane of comparison, all other waters in that vicinity may also be determined with certainty.</p> <p>In examining the statements as given by <u>compilers</u> I often find a considerable discrepancy, owing no doubt to carelessness in copying.</p>
13	<p><u>Saturday</u>. Cloudy morn, some rain wind NE. River risen over the lowlands; hence we conclude there is snow on Hoosac mountain. Day cloudy through out and some rain; air cool.</p>
14	<p><u>Sunday</u> This morn the hills presented a slight covering of snow, the wind N and cool, The day cloudy with frequent falls of snow, melting as soon as it reached the ground in our valley.</p>
15	<p><u>Monday</u>. Morn Cloudy wind NW & cold</p>

April
 15 our mountain capped with snow.
 Day cloudy throughout
 16 Tuesday Fair day- Wind N.W.
 very clear.
 The Legislature of our State closed its session
 last Wednesday the 10th after a session of up
 wards of three months. What an expendi
 ture of money for our little state!
 17 Wednesday Cloudy morn. a sprinkling of
 rain & sleet with cold NE Wind remained
 cloudy through the day.
 18 Thursday Morn Cloudy, but sun soon
 out and cool N wind. Broken clouds
 during the day.
 19 Friday Clear day with S wind,
 and warmer air than several past days.
 20 Saturday Fair day and northerly
 wind; air moderate.
 Wrote a letter to Charles O. Boutelle at Bos
 ton, assistant to Mr. Borden enclosing
 Mr Lincoln's Monument address.
 21 Sunday Fair day, and northerly wind
 a clear sky and fine weather.
 22 Monday Fair day Wind South
Accident on the Rail Road at Boston.
 As the train of Cars was passing beneath the Bridge
 in Washington Street, on its way to Worcester
 Rail J.F. Curtis, the superintendent of the road
 Road unfortunately put his head out the window
 Accident of the cars; it immediately came in contact with
 one of the posts which support the arch &
 was crushed in a fearful manner. The car
 returned to the depot with the unfortunate
 man & surgical aid was procured; but he died
 in a short time. Mr.

- Mr Curtis had been agent & superintendent of the Boston and Worcester Railroad ever since it had been in operation, and therefore must have been well acquainted with the requisite precautions, yet he seems to have forgotten them in this instance. Too many accidents occur on these roads, and it is a question whether they are not in some particulars defective. The passage across this street is evidently too narrow, as in some instances, are the excavations through rocky precipices seen on the road. Children are particularly exposed when looking out of a window of a car, without knowing the danger.
- April 22
- 23 Tuesday Fair morn and South wind; day hazy, but the sun in sight
My Daughter Isabella recd. a letter from son Arthur dated Paris Illinois, April 9th in which he states that the Board public works have assigned so much business to him, that he cannot come to Deerfield before Oct. next; and perhaps not under a year. He thinks of bringing with him a couple of fallow Deer I suppose fawns. This I think be rather difficult, as the passage is long & partly by stages.
- 24 Wednesday Morn hazy & south wind
Afternoon the sky more clear & air moderately warm.
- 25 Thursday. Cloudy morn; shower of rain last night. ~~Wind~~ Gentle wind south
Afternoon fair with scattering clouds & W wind

April	<u>Friday</u> Fair day and NW. wind
26	and pleasant air
27	<u>Saturday</u> : Fair day South wind. our maples are now in blossom, and in Mrs. Williams Garden, I saw a small plum tree in full blossom.
28	<u>Sunday</u> Fair Morn, and North wind. Soon cloudy & in afternoon rain commenced The street maples now present a beautiful pale green or yellow hue, yet without leaves
29	<u>Monday</u> Cloudy morning North wind & Some rain part of the day.
30	<u>Tuesday</u> Cloudy day & rain in afternoon wind South
May	<u>Wednesday</u> Cloudy & foggy morn
1	and north breeze. Day cloudy through
1839	out & moderately warm & some rain In no month of the year is the plunomena of nature so beautiful, to the reflecting minds as in the month of May. At this time I am delightful to "See thru this air, this ocean, and this earth, All matter quick & bursting into birth Above, how high, progressive life may go; Around how wide! how deep extend below! Vast chain of being! Which from God began; Natures ethereal, human angel, man, Beast, bird, fish, insect! what no eye can see, No Glass can reach! from infinite three." ² At

Beauty of May

² From Alexander Pope's *Essay on Man*, Epistle 1.

May
1

At no time is the “power, wisdom and goodness of God as manifested in the Creation” more strikingly displayed! than during this prolific month. What a contrast between the God of nature as is now presented, and him who is held up to view, by our Calvinistic Clergy and their submissive followers! Depraved indeed, must be that mind which can believe in their repulsive and degraded system: a system that not only deprives God of benevolent attributes, but converts man into unsocial, sour and unfeeling beings; fitted subjects for Bedlam than for rational society. Such a scheme cannot be sustained in a free Country where light prevails, and men dare to think without the shackles of a blind orthodoxy.

Effects
of
orthodoxy

Let the lover of nature pursue his studies undisturbed by the devices of bigoted men, and he will find irresistible arguments in proof of the wisdom and while he admires & wonders, he cannot withhold adoration to the Great first Cause. seen in every plant in every animal in every mineral, as well as in every part of the Universe that comes within our limited view. What a field for the minds of ~~thinking~~ men of expanded intellects.

- May 2 Thursday. Rainy & foggy morn
with a breeze from North Sun
out before noon and wind SW Fair
afternoon. Cumulus clouds appear in
the south horizon. Mercury 76° Summer
weather.
- 3 Friday Cloudy morn, and South wind
at 8 AM clear and brisk west wind,
the air cool and fair afternoon.
- 4 Saturday Fair day Wind N.W.
and cool. Sky very clear.
- 5 Sunday The forepart rather cloudy & S.W.
wind Most of day cloudy with some
rain afternoon. Sun out before night.
And 6 PM a dark cloudy in the west & north
with some thunder & rain.
- 6 Monday Fair day with southerly
wind
- 7 Tuesday Fair morn, day cloudy and
clear occasionally slight wind N.W.
- 8 Wednesday Cloudy Morn, and wind
south. Day fair and brisk
- 9 Thursday Cloudy morn, wind North
but most of the day fair: Air pleasantly warm
In looking over Mr. Barber's Connecticut Histori-
cal Collection which is in fact a complete
Gazetteer of Connecticut, embellished with
a Map of the State, and ~~numerous~~ 185 plates & fine
views, I find the name of Comfort Hoyt jr
among those who sustained loss in the invasion of
the British at Danbury, in 1777. In the list of names of the
- Bar
ber's
Con
necti
cut

May
9th

first settlers of the town, in 1685, is that of John Hoyt. All except one are said to have come from Norwalk.

Hoyt
Famil
ly

Windsor was settled in 1635 by people from near Boston, among whom I am informed were Nicholas and Simon Hoyt, the former my ancestor. My great Grandfather David Hoyt, I suppose, was son to Nicholas Hoyt, and one of the first settlers of Hadley, and afterwards of Deerfield. Did the ~~the~~ Norwalk and Danbury Hoyts originate from the Windsor Hoyts? I had supposed the former were descendants from Benjamin Hoyt, my Grandfather's brother, who settled at Danbury or Ridgefield, soon after Deerfield was destroyed. But if John Hoyt was one of the first settlers of Danbury in 1685, the descent of the Hoyts in that place may be different from what I had supposed. I think it probable however, that John Hoyt was the son of one of the Windsor Hoyts and that he & Benjamin Hoyt were the progenitors of the Hoyts in the County of Fairfield in Connecticut. They are now spread over the western part of Vermont and the state of N York. There seems to have been another family of the name in New Hampshire. In 1805 I found two families of the name on the right (or west) branch of the Penobscot in Maine, above Sunk-Huse, who told me they were from New-Hampshire

The work of Mr. Barber includes

May
9

Putnam's Hill Barber's Book

descriptions of nearly every town in Connecticut, with biographies of many of the leading men in the towns, as well as many antiquated accounts of the early people, and is highly interesting to those of an antiquarian taste. It must have required much research. The views were drawn with his own hands (generally) and, though some are wood cuts, they are excellent; he is a good Engraver. I have seldom perused a work more engaging. In page 381 is a view of Putnam's Hill in Greenwich (near Horseneck) where the General escaped from the British Cavalry by descending a rocky precipice, over which the Stage road now leads, through an excavation; and in page 400 a view of the Ground in Ridgefield where Arnold with a small force opposed the march of Tryons troops on their return from Danbury, and he had a horse shot under him: the very spot is marked, near the house of a Mr Stebbins on the crest of a hill 1 ½ mile north of this place; & Col. Gould was killed about 80 rods east of it. (Woster was of Stratford an explained of fever) From Mr Barber's history of the western towns in Connecticut, it appears that, in many instances, the settlers were annoyed by the northern Indians, many years after the destruction of Deerfield in 1704. Litchfield was settled in 1720 & 1721. Sharon & Salisbury rather later; they built fortifications for security~

- May
9 This day Cherry & Pear trees are seen in blossom. Last year they were first seen on the 21 & 22d of May, 12 days later, according to my Journal. a remarkable difference in the two seasons.
- 10 Friday Fair day, with wind N.
Letter from Arthur to Isabella dated Paris April 30, 1839, recd. this day.
- 11 Saturday Fair day and North wind
For sometime past the nights have been cool, attended with frost, but the days moderately warm and pleasant.
- 12 Sunday Fair day, and southerly breeze
apple blossoms appear.
- 13 Monday Hazy day, and south wind; ground pretty dry.
- 14 Tuesday Rain forenoon, with wind at North. Sun out towards night
- 15 Wednesday Fair day, wind South.
My Daughter Isabella sat out for Boston by Athol and Worcester rail road.
- 16 Thursday Fair and cloudy alternately & Northern breeze. Occasional sprinkling of rain~ Apple blossoms out in field
- 17 Friday Fair and cloudy day & wind South; air cool

May 18	<u>Saturday</u> Fair day, and North wind and pleasant.
A New Work	J.W. Barber, Author of Connecticut Historical Collections (noticed page 69) has just published a similar work on Massachusetts, with numerous views & plans. It is noticed in the Boston papers and for sale in that City, and no doubt will find a rapid sale among the curious (See page 154)
19	<u>Sunday</u> . Fair day, and southerly breeze, which veered to west & became brisk air rather warm.
20	<u>Monday</u> Fair day south W wind then NW with warm air.
21	<u>Tuesday</u> . Fair day with northern breeze, changed to south. Sky sometimes shrouded with thin clouds.
Repeal of part of the militia law	<u>Militia</u> . The repeal of the provision in the militia law of this Commonwealth, granting an annual sum to the soldiers of the volunteer companies produces a bluster among them Meetings are held upon the subject & warm resolutions are passed. Some threaten to with hold their services, and some officers to resign their Commissions. That they are justly en titled to compensation there can be no doubt, but under the present system their services are of little consequence, and in fact the money paid them is lost. A Radical reform is wanted; but this must come from Congress, where the power of organization is

May
21

Our
Militia
System.

lodged. But that body seem to take no concern in the subject, and little can be done by the States. Let the militia then remain as it is, until Congress shall learn the importance of acting on the subject. until a crisis arises which shall rouse them from their slumbers. But perhaps nothing short of a war with some foreign nation will effect this. The present system is a false show of strength, which ought no longer to be imposed upon the Country, and deaden the military spirit. The time has come when the empty sound of patriotism affording charms to the soldier; when all who serve their country ~~in any capacity~~ must be compensated whether in a civil or military capacity; and we must either maintain a large body of standing troops or pay a disciplined militia. Here is our choice, And wise men will not hesitate in choosing the latter, provided it can be placed on a proper basis. Viz a select corps to be armed, paid & disciplined a short time annually, by the United States. Relying on the wide Atlantic we may for a time rest in security without a land force; but this will soon cease to be a defense we may increase our Navy, erect forts and batteries on our sea coast, but without disciplined soldiers how shall we render the latter effective defenses?

Defensive
Plan

A line of these works, at the most important points, along our sea-board, with small garisons of regular troops in time of peace, to be reinforced by select militia, in time of

May 21	war, would be a good security against an invading enemy; and in case an enemy should land at unguarded points, the remainder of the select militia joined by the remainder of the regular forces, might be sufficient to oppose them with effect. If more troops should be found necessary, detachments might be made from the common militia of the Country. This then, is the outline of a system of defence I would adopt; and I think would be effectual in a defensive war.
22	Wednesday, Morn cloudy with some rain and fog; wind none. At 9 o'clock a breeze from NE. Day cloudy throughout
23	<u>Thursday</u> . Cloudy morning & N E wind which changed to NW. Most of the day cloudy; wind changed to N.E. afternoon Wrote a Letter to Son Arthur at Paris Illinois.
24	<u>Friday</u> Cloudy, foggy with some rain in the morn, and air calm. Afterwards a breeze from the North Cloudy day.
25	<u>Saturday</u> . Cloudy morn with some rain attended with thunder; the air near by balm. At 11 A.M. sun out wind south & variable
Theo retical consid erations	When the atmosphere is uniformly cloudy we seldom have thunder, even in hot weather, owing, probably, to the equal diffusion of electricity throughout the mass, and also with that of the earth. When, then, under these circumstances, thunder does occur, may it not proceed from detached clouds, in the

- region above the general mass, between
 which there is not an electrical equilibrium
 In such case the discharge could be between
 the upper and lower mass of clouds;
 and this may destroy the equilibrium
 between the latter and the earth, and thence
 produce thunder from the lower mass,
 either possative or negative, according to
 the state of the clouds.
- 26 Sunday. Fair day, with west wind
 and very clear sky
- 27 Monday Cloudy morn wind south
 most of day cloudy; about middle of
 afternoon some rain & distant thunder.
 the wind variable & became North &
 then again South~
- 28 Tuesday Cloudy morn & a shower.
 Sun out about 10 oclock A.M. wind South.
 most of the day continued cloudy.
 The Works of Dr Benjamin Frank
 lin, with notes and a Life of the Au
 thor, by Jared Sparks, in 8 vo Vols.
 The work is now printing by Hilliard
 Grary company, at Boston,
 and 8 vols. are already out of the
 press, the last Numbered 9, as the 1st
 to contain the Biography is not out.
 The whole No probably will be 12 or
 more. This collection will contain
 the whole of Franklins Works, many
- Dr Frank
 lin's Works

May
28

Dr Franklins Works

parts of which have been omitted in the European & former collections, and will display the genius of this wonderful man. Mr Sparks Notes are important as they give a sort of history of the ~~of the~~ authors writing, and many explanations which are necessary for understanding them. At the time Franklin began to write, many branches of Natural Philosophy were in a crude state, and loaded with fungus ~~from~~ which he contributed largely to clear away. His Letters, in the 5th Vol. on Electricity, in which he gives his theory of that science, are a remarkable instance of induction philosophy, and cannot be read without admiration by inquisitive men. In many other branches of philosophy he is equally curious. In a letter on the Long Retention of Infection in Dead Bodies after Sepulture (Vol. 6, p. 433) he gives the following facts.

“While in England I read, in a Newspaper that in a Country Village at the funeral of a woman whose husband had died of the small pox, thirty years before, and whose grave was dug so as to place her by his side, the neighbors attending the funeral were offended with the smell arising out of the grave, occasioned by a breach in the husband’s old coffin, and 25 of them were in a few days taken ill with that distemper, which before was not in that village or in its neighborhood, nor had been for a number of years above mentioned.”

Infection

May
28

This fact which I had not before seen, affords an answer to a question, which had often occurred to in my mind: whether it were safe to open the grave of one who died of a contagious disease, and especially of the small pox!

Some other instances are mentioned by the Dr: and he concludes with this remark, "But as we do not yet know with certainty how long the power of infection may in some bodies be retained, it seems well in such case to be cautious till further light shall be obtained."

Mr Spark's Edition is elegantly printed and elucidated with well engraved plates and portraits; and to him the public is highly indebted for this and other collections, which he has recently made. and committed to the press. He is now engaged in publishing American Biography to be continued indefinitely a most useful work; 10 volumes are already printed.

29 Wednesday. Cloudy morn, wind south & some rain. The day mostly fair, with the same wind, and air moderate.

30 Thursday. Fair day, and brisk North west wind, & cool!

31 Friday Morn hazy with N.W. wind and cool. The day generally clear and air cold, requiring a fire. Last evening Mr. Lincoln, the Preceptor of our Academy, called at my room

May 31. and exhibited an improved magic lantern he had procured for the Academy. The glass sliders now used with this instrument are numerous; but he procured only 5 or 6. comprising birds and landscape views: the former are represented on the screen as large, or larger, than life, according to the distance of the instrument from it. Sliders containing plants all sort of animals, and astronomical diagrams, may now be obtained and applied to the instrument, rendering it very useful in the study of Botany, Zoology and astronomy. In the delineations of the objects upon the sliders, great skill is required in the artist, to render them transparent, and at the same time to give the true colours as they appear in their natural state. The instrument is very curious, and shows the great perfection to which the arts and sciences have been carried in Europe. Mr Lincoln has also procured for the Academy several other useful instruments, among which is a curious galvanic apparatus.

Herrick Stebbins death of This day Herrick Stebbins, son of Major Stebbins, was buried; he died of a Dropsy of an uncommonly short duration. I knew not that he was unwell until I was informed of his death.

June 1. Saturday. Cloudy morn with some rain and North wind. Sun seen at noon, but soon again overset and generally cloudy with small showers. Last evening Mr Lincoln favored me with an inspection of the Galvanic machines [] in my journal yesterday, at my room. The

June 1

Electro
Magnet
ic Instru
ments.

The machines have now obtained the name of Electro magnetic machines, from Electro Magnetism. The power of an electrical current to produce magnetic effects has received this latter name, and the science is now eagerly pursued and investigated by our naturalists. One machine procured by Mr Lincoln is called Pages Compound magnet & Electro tome with a cylindrical pot Battery ~~with Double Helix strand~~. It is somewhat complex and rather difficult to describe, without diagrams of the parts. It gives violent galvanic shocks, which were painful to my fingers, attended with brilliant flashes into a small glass cup of mercury. Pages Revolving Armature is another instrument showing the rotation of a magnet, with a prodigious velocity, by the Electro magnetic power. The experiments exhibited by the ~~both~~ machines were both wonderful and astonishing: And then by the persevering study and exertions of philosophical men, we are learning more and more of the laws of God. These instruments, and a great variety of others, are constructed by David Davis Jr. No. 11 Cornhill Boston, who has recently published a Catalogue of his apparatus and Experiments in a pamphlet of 72 pages, and inserted the prices of the different instruments, which I think very reasonable. To Mr Lincoln I feel much indebted for the trouble he has taken to gratify me with an inspection of the valuable instruments he has procured for the Academy. The discretionary

June
1

however have given him in the choice of instruments, and the expenditure of the annual sum of 40 dollars for philosophical instruments, could not have been placed in better hands. Under this system in the course of a few years our apparatus, already respectable, will exceed any found in an Academy in the interior of the State. The apparatus & experiments in Davis Pamphlet, are intended to illustrate the following branches of science, namely: Galvinism, Electro-Dynamics, Magnetism, Electro-Magnetism, Magneto-Electricity & Thermo-Electricity.

Remarks
on New
terms
in Science

The pedantic propensity of introducing new terms, generally from the Greek into the sciences, where suitable names are now found, is of doubtful utility, as it tends rather to embarrass the student who is not acquainted with the Greek language, and if the study of philosophy be confined to the small circle of man, who are and often possess little taste for deductive knowledge, the progress of natural philosophy will be comparatively slow, and the study limited to a few.

The terms Dynamics, Magnetism & Electricity are sufficient to embrace all that can be said upon those subjects, without the prefixes Electro, magneto & Thermo. Where an appropriate English term cannot be found, there is some course for resorting to another language. Some of the names of instruments in Davis pamphlet are chargeable with this pedantry of the time.

Magnets are divided into two kinds, viz

June 1.	<p><u>permanent</u> and <u>electro</u> magnets; the former the common magnet with fixed poles, the latter concerned with wire, so as to be enclosed in a permanent helix. in these last, if the iron enveloped in the coil, is soft and pure, the magnetic power however great, is communicated immediately and immediately destroyed, according as the connexion with the battery is made or broken.</p> <p>The electro-magnet, there is nothing more than a soft piece of iron which is acted upon, for a moment by electro-magnetism, and can with no more propriety be called a <u>magnet</u>, than the human body an <u>electric</u>, because it retains the electric fluid when insulated.</p> <p>The terms <u>permanent</u> and <u>induced magnet</u>, would be more appropriate.</p>
Electro Magnet	
Technical terms	<p>This rage for Greek technology, I hope, will soon subside, and find substitutes be found in the English language. In the Treatise on Mineralogy and Geology in the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, though in general loaded with <u>learned</u> terms, I am gratified to find the writer ventured to use terms from the English. Treating of the different strata, they are described under the terms <u>mantle formed</u>, <u>basin shaped</u>, <u>trough shaped</u>, <u>straight</u> &c (Vol. 13, page 433)</p> <p>Which are easily understood by an English scholar; but risking a charge of vulgarism by the pedantry of the times. In no</p>

June 1	branch of knowledge is the evil of this rage more conspicuous than in our treatises on natural history, and particularly those on botany, by which the rare knowledge of these branches, is kept under the lock of a few linguists, whose acquirements in other branches of science are often extremely limited. Under an English dress, these sciences might be highly interesting to the people at large, and a nomenclature adopted that might be understood by all enquiring minds.
2	<u>Sunday</u> Fair morn and south wind; sky sometimes overspread with cumulo stratus clouds, and small showers occasionally occurred. Afternoon wind variable & cool, with some rain.
3	<u>Monday</u> Morn loosely clouded and wind south. Sun occasionally seen in the afternoon, but general cloudy & cool.
Letter from Son Arthur	<u>Memo.</u> A Letter from son Arthur to Isabella, Paris May 20 th 1839, received this day, informs that all are well, and that he does not expect to be at Deerfield until June or July 1840. C.S. Williams he says may leave for Deerfield the 1 st of September next, by whom he may send 1600 dollars, in part pay for Miss. L Williams homestead, if the business can be arranged according to his wishes. The seal of Arthurs letters bears the motto, " <u>Deeds not Words</u> " Good, if followed. He

June 3.	<p>He states in his letter, that he shall be at Springfield, Illinois on the 1st of June, busily employed. That place is without the limits of his former district. Is his work extended by the board of Commissioners Springfield is upwards of 100 miles westerly of Paris, and near Sangamon River, and is to be the capital of the State in 1840, or 1841.</p>
Queen of En gland's Procla mation	<p>In a New-York Paper of this day's mail is a Proclamation by the Queen of England forbidding meetings of her subjects in companies for military training, or practice of tactics. It seems those meetings are frequent in some parts of the kingdom for what purpose it does not appear; and as they are not legally authorized bodies under the command of Commissioned officers, some alarm is excited.</p>
<u>Remarks</u>	<p>I am not aware of any spirit of opposition in the people of England at this time, towards their government; but such a spirit may exist and be fostered by secret combination, like the Orange Lodges lately suppressed by the government of Great Britain.</p> <p>The fact is hereditary monarchies are becoming unfavourable to the common people throughout Europe. With the example of the United States before them, they see that government may exist under an elective form, and it</p>

June
3

Remarks on Governments

it is probable that this system will at length be adopted in all nations where the people are enlightened on the principles of equal rights. Whether the people of Europe are prepared for such governments is a question of importance. The late experiment in France seems to prove that they were then unfit for an elective system; and it will hardly be supposed that they have since undergone any material alternation. A similar experiment in England, might prove abortive and perhaps bloody, and cause the friends of liberty to regret too early an attempt. Where an overwhelming majority of the people shall determine to adopt a free government, & the army shall lose their loyalty to their monarch, the object may be effected and without much strife. Should revolutions in the Governments of Europe, of this kind, take place, it is hoped they will not be attended with blood and carnage like the revolution in France, which has left a stain upon that nation which time cannot erase, and demonstrated that without some public virtue and elective government cannot be sustained. Let Americans remember this great truth. To us the idea of hereditary legislators is a solecism in which as Dr Franklin

remarks

June 3.

Dr Franklin's remarks

remarks, "There would be more propriety because less hazard of mischief in having (as in some university in Germany) hereditary professors of mathematics" "But this he adds, was a hasty reflection; for the elected House of Commons is no better, nor ever will be while the electors receive money for their votes, and pay money where with ministers may bribe their representatives where chosen" (See Franklin's Works, vol. 5, page 54, by Sparks) This remark was confined to the Parliament of Great Britain; but the corruption may exist in a free government, though, it is believed, to a less extent.

Let it not be understood from these remarks that any disrespect is intended towards the British nation. Far from this. Their arts, sciences and numerous laudable institutions place them on high ground in the view of literal minded men. If in one point their government is defective, I mean in an elective hereditary head & an elective legislature, they will probably correct error as soon as the people are fitted for it; and this I think will take place at no distant day.

June 4 Tuesday Morn cloudy, and nearly calm. Sun out at noon & wind south many cirro stratus clouds in the sky.

Report
in Con
gress on
a National
Found
ary
last session Mr. Grinnell, our late member of Congress sends me a Report on a National Foundary, made to Congress Jany 12, 1839, by a Committee of which William Cost Johnson, of Maryland was Chairman~

 The importance of a Foundary for the US is obvious to all who are acquainted with military affairs ~~science~~, and those who are not, will be convinced of it by a perusal of the report, which evinces considerable research into the science of war. The Committee quote from several military authors of repute, and among others Dupin's Military View, (2 (or more) Vols.) This work I have not seen, but judging from the extracts, made by the committee, I think it must be valuable.

Arse
nal
at Wool
wich In this work is an account of the English Arsenal at Woolwich, where, when visited by the Emperor Alexander after the battle of Waterloo, nearly forty thousand pieces of ordnance were seen, including only cannon, cannonades, howitzers and mortars. It contains also extensive collections of military machines & models, and occupies about 60 acres of Ground, on which is the foundary, boring mills workshops and laboratories. The number of artisans and laborers employed during peace is nearly 2000, and double that number in time of war. The whole establishment is divided into four principal departments, such as the

June
4

laboratory, artillery, carriage, and model departments, each under the care and keeping of an appropriate staff of officers and artisans, and the whole under the superintendence of a master General of the ordnance.

A
Bill
report
ed on
a Foundry in
Congress

The Report closes with a Bill, appropriating one hundred thousand dollars, for a national foundry for fabricating cannon for the use of the army & navy of the U States, the location not fixed, but left for further consideration; the site to contain not less than 60 acres. In consequence of this report many petitions have been presented to Congress, offering locations, each, of course, claiming to be the best.

If one foundry only should be established, it probably will be located as centrally as possible perhaps in Virginia. The District of Columbia puts in strong claim to the best location. But Congress ought not to forget that that place was captured and burnt by 4 or 5 thousand troops (British) in the late war, in the face of their efficient militia. As connected with a national foundry, I hope Congress will open their eyes to the importance of a well regulated militia, who will be able to defend it against a sudden invasion. From

June 4	<p>From the Report and appendix, it appears that we are deficient in ordnance. We have a considerable number of guns in depot and on the fortifications' but many are old and defective and totally unfit for service. The Report says "It is a well known fact that many of the guns on board our national Ships, during the War of 1812, burst during the heat of action, and thereby destroyed more of our gallant defenders than of our enemies." Of this deficiency in the ordnance Department I was not aware, before I read the report</p> <p>The military department of a nation is necessary expensive; but in the present condition of the world it must be borne. Tocquville, a late political writer, says, "I am unacquainted with a more deplorable spectacle than that of a people unable either to defend or maintain its independence." Not less deplorable is the situation of a nation which possesses the means of defense yet neglects to use them.</p>
Page 142	
5	<p><u>Wednesday</u> Cloudy & rainy morn, with NE wind and so continued through the day.</p> <p><u>Gordon's Gazetteer</u> of the State of New York</p>
Gazet teer of N. York	<p>1 Vol. 8 vo. pp 915: With a map of the State & wood cut maps of each County &c. The Introduction contains a condensed Colonial History of the state and a large map of matter relating to its geography lands a valuable work; though as a <u>Gazetteer</u> it is not superior to Spoffard's. It</p>

June
5.

It was printed at Philadelphia in 1836.
and now procured for our Library.
In the History I notice some inaccuracies in
the dates & facts. A complete or general [—] History of
the State of New-York still remains a
desideratum. Why does not some Gentle
man fill up the hiatus?

No section ~~state~~ in the United States presents so
so many military operations as the coun
try now included within the limits
of New York; and even a brief detail
of these would fill out a good sized
volume.

Previous to the first settlements of Europeans
in North America, it is probable many wars
occurred between the Five nations and other
Indian tribes east of the Mississippi: but no
thing certain is known, in relation to these
wars, until the settlement of lower Can
ada by the French.

Milita
ry oper
ations
in the
state of
N York

The following is a list of the Battles &c which
have occurred within the State, as gathered from
the most authentic sources. Commencing with
1687. In the month June, or August the Marquois
De Nouville with 2000 french troops & 600 indians landed at
Irondequoit bay, on the South shore of Lake On
tario, marched about 27 miles, and attacked the
Senecas, at the Corn field of this village, which
was destroyed with their castle. Many lost on
both sides. The French were surprised & at first
driven from the open ground.

Note

- June 5 Note This must have occurred on the Genesee flats, or Wadscoothe farm: the same invaded by Sullivan in 1779; 92 years after the French expedition.
- (1690) ~~1690~~ French forces from Canada attacked & destroyed Schenectady, on the 29th of February 1692 Beaucours & expedition vs Five Nations (Smith 131)
- 1693 In the month of January, six or seven hundred French and Indians from Canada attacked & carried three castles of the Mohawk above Schenectady. On their return, they were attacked by Col. Schuyler with about 300 more men near the N. branch of the Hudson & put to flight. (Smith 135)
- Smith 147 1696. Count Frontenau with a strong force of regulars, militia & Indians, invaded the Onandago County, by the St Lawrence, Lake Ontario, Oswego, and Seneca River. The Onandagas burnt their village & retired into the woods. Frontenau destroyed the Corn fields; and a detachment proceeded to Oneida & captured a few Indians. The expedition set out from Montreal the fore part of June. The peace of Ryswick at the close of 1697 ended the war with France, but continued by ~~the~~ the Indians to January 1699.
- Queen Ann's war commenced in 1702. And in 1709. A provincial force, under Col. Nicholson, assembled at Albany, advanced to wood creek and built fort Ann, with the intention of invading Canada: the troops proving very sickly soon returned to Albany. (See Smiths N York, page 194)
- Smith page 208 1711 Another force under Col. Nicholson marched from Albany for Lake George, to cooperate with a force from Boston, destined against Canada. The expedition from Boston, meeting with a disastrous storm in the River St Lawrence, returned in a shattered condition & great loss which induced Nicholson to return to Albany. The peace of Utrecht in 1713 ended the war
- War of 1764 1764 A strong force assembled at Albany to invade Canada, but was ~~it~~ given up from various causes.

June
5

During the war, Saratoga was invaded and burnt by Indians, and parties of the enemy hound about Albany. See Smith page 466.

French war of 1755. Battle at lake George Sept 8th of that year, the French & Indians defeated & Baron Deiskau wounded & taken Prisoner by Sir William Johnsons troops. Same day a detachment under Col. E Williams ambuscaded & defeated near bloody pond 1756, Oswego besieged, & taken by the French under Montcalm

1757. Fort William Henry besieged & captured by Montcalm marquise. A French attack on the same fort in the winter previous ~~in the winter.~~

1758. July 8th General Abercrombie defeated in an attack in Ticonderoga, with great loss: and he retreated to the south end of Lake George. Same year Col. Bradstreet's expedition up the Mohawk & by Oswego to Frontenac, at the outlet of Lake Ontario; and an escort with baggage wagons cut off near Sandy hill (at cold brook) Rogers & Putnam's battle at Fort Ann the same year 1759 Genl Amherst captured Ticonderoga & Crown Point. Evacuated by the French 1760 Amhersts expedition up the Mohawk to Oswego & thence down the St Lawrence to Montreal; and Haviland's through Lake Champlain to the same place.

During this war Co Bradstreet was attacked on Onandago River the enemy defeated.

1759 Sir William Johnson takes Fort Niagara and defeats ~~the~~ a reinforcement of the enemy near the fort.

Revolu
tion.

1775 Ticonderoga & Crown point taken by

- June
5 Colonels Allen and Arnold.
1776 Battle on Lake Champlain Americans defeated.
1777 Burgoyne takes Crown point and Ticonderoga & soon after, Americans defeated at battle hill near fort Ann.
Battle of the 19th of September and 7th of October at Bemus heights same year
Surrender of Burgoyne Oct. 16, 1777
Battle on Long Island White Plains and several others on the lower Hudson, the same war.
The Battles of Plattsburg, Sackets Harbor and several on Niagara River, occurred in the war of 1812.
Omitted Siege of Fort Stanwix battle at Oriskany in 1777, several of Rogers & Putnams in the war of 1755, and others in the western part of the State of New York. (Also Sullivans Expedition into the Indian Country and Battle at Newton now Elmira) Details of these may be found in Rogers journal and Stones life of Brant.
The Battles on the British side of the line, in the war of 1812, would very properly be included in a history of New-York.
- 6 ~~Wednesday~~ Thursday Cloudy morn & wind N.W. Sun out about noon, with many floating clouds: after part of day fair. Air cool.
- 7 Friday a very clear morning, with N.W. wind; the day continued fair through out, with a few clouds & the air not very warm.
- 8 Saturday Cloudy morning, wind South afternoon Fair; thermometer 82, and wind brisk.

June
9

Sunday Morning cloudy but broken and wind South; sun occasionally out; warm air afternoon with many clouds; ~~and [—]~~ frequent thunder and [] rain. The first real thunder shower we have had this season; Wind strong from NW.

Thun
der
show
ers

Last summer our hot weather commenced on the 10th of June, the thermometer then 93, previous to which the weather was uncommonly cool.

This season the weather has been warmer, though up to this time we have had no hot days, and my winter clothing has not been uncomfortable.

Sun's declination at Greenwich this day, pr. Ephmaris, 22°-54'-42", 4 N ; at Deer field about 1 minute greater.

For remarks on thunder showers, see my journal for last July (the 18th) page 44 No. 11. Also page 75 of same No.

From ~~the~~ observations that the occurrence of thunder showers have, depend very much on the prevalence of southerly winds; & that with a west, N. west, or N. wind, few will occur even in hot weather. Where a southerly wind has prevailed in the for part of the day, and it changes to the northward, showers may happen

June 9	<p>If a westerly or northerly wind first prevails and they it changes to a southerly one direction, showers may be produced; but this change I believe seldom happens. The meeting of currents of air of different densities, both loaded with aqueous vapor, seems to be the <u>great cause</u> of showers and if differently charged with electricity, thunder will accompany them.</p>
Conjectures	<p>When the vapor and electricity are equally diffused through the atmosphere showers, I believe seldom occur, even if the weather be hot; and this diffusion is generally continued {—} where clouds are spread over the atmosphere, especially in a calm. The foregoing principles afford some clues for predicting the weather, yet not with perfect reliance, since others may be [c]ombined with them without being perceptible to us.</p>
	<p><u>Monday.</u> Fair morn, with a brisk N. wester; many cirro-cumulus clouds floating briskly across the sky, with <u>apparent</u> unequal velocities. About 4 P.M. the Clouds thickened, in the west, and gave us a few crops of rain. As the wind continued in the west & Northwest, this was unlooked for by me, and militates against my theory, of opposite currents of air as necessary for the production of Showers. But may not different currents have met to the west of us, and the condensed vapor been wafted to us by the brisk & westerly wind which prevailed throughout the day?</p>

June
10

Apparent unequal motion of Clouds

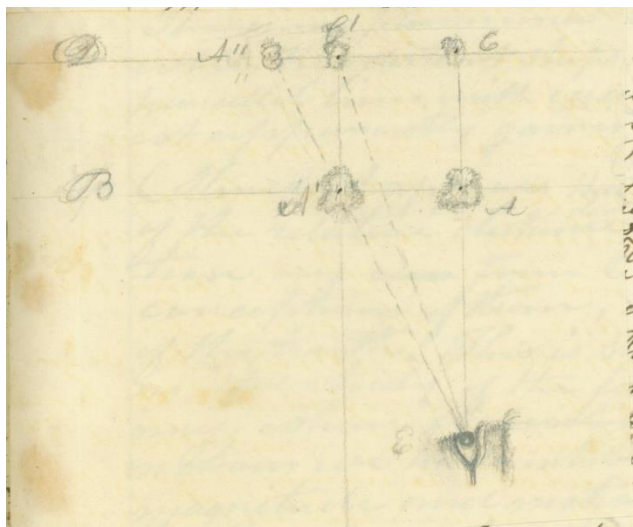
Had the wind changed to the southerly quarter,
I should have looked for showers with
confidence.

I have mentioned the apparent unequal
velocity of the clouds. This is evidently
an optical deception that often occurs.

Elucidation. See the annexed Diagram

Let A and C represent two clouds of
different altitudes, moving on the parallel
lines AB and CD, with the same wind,
and seen in one by the eye at E.

When A arrives at A^1 , it will be seen
in the line EA^1 , and referred to the line
CD passing through the highest cloud, it
will appear at A^{11} . C having passed over
the space $C^1 (=AA^1)$ will be seen in the line
 EC^1 , and A^{11} will appear to the eye E.
to have gained on C, the space $C^1 A^{11}$ will be
apparently greater according as the dist
ance between the clouds is increased; and
without knowing that they ~~clouds~~ are
at different elevations, we suppose the
lower cloud A, to move with greater ve
locity than C, where they are the same.
By fixing the eye upon the cloud A, and
conceiving it to be at rest, the upper cloud
C, will appear to move back contrary to
its real motion. Opposite currents of wind
no doubt, exist in the atmosphere at the same
time within a few miles distance, and clouds



June
10

may be seen moving in them in opposite direction; but this is not often the case with those near each other.

The same phenomena will be noticed when two distant ships are seen sailing on parallel lines, with equal velocities; the newest apparently gaining upon the other.

A

(Hence it appears that without a knowledge of the relative distance & directions of objects seen in motion, we ~~can~~ form but very erroneous conceptions of them, and often the reverse of the truth. This is strikingly illustrated in the study of the first principle of Astronomy, where it is ~~will be~~ seen that the notions we had imbibed concerning the magnitude and motions of the heavenly bodies are almost entirely erroneous, and contrary to the beautiful and harmonious system of nature.)

By varying the position of the Spectator, or putting him in motion, those appearances will be diversified, and at the first view may strike the mind as anomalies irreconcilable with the conclusions of the objects viewed.

(A)
11

Tuesday. Thin spread clouds and south wind in the morning; air moderate; Sun out at 10: Wind veered to W. P.M. 1 many cirro cumulus clouds in the west. and at ½ past one a small fall of rain. After this fair & very pleasant, with westerly wind, & temperate air. John Haywards

June 11.	<p><u>Hayward's Gazetteer</u> of New England is noticed in the papers, as a good work. A copious work of this kind would be useful; but in general they are too brief. Spofford's of New York is an exception, and I think, the best gazetteer that has been published in the United States.</p>
Hay wards gazetteer 12	<p><u>Wednesday</u>. Very clear morn; wind North and air cool. At noon, high <u>cirro stratus</u> Clouds, and a breeze from south, the air still cool. Afternoon sky very over cast & wind NW</p>
Con vention at North ampton	<p>This day a Convention from the Counties of Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden & Worcester, assembles at Northampton to take measures in relation to the License law of Massachusetts; and it is expected severe resolutions will be passed against it. As the law now stands it is believed the quantity of spirits drank will not be lessened in the aggregate, though <u>dram drinking</u> may be checked, and in the latter case the law cannot be considered as objectionable. If our common Drunkards can be reclaimed by it, it must be admitted as salutary. But so long as fifteen gallon kegs can be procured by individuals and companies, and kept in their cellars, there is danger of excess in the use of it</p>

June
12

License Laws

To prohibit the use of Ardent spirits in tirely, it is thought, would be a stretch of power not granted by the Constitution, and as improper as the prohibition of Tea or Coffee, whenever the Legislature should think them pernicious.

In an elective government the exercise of doubtful power is rather dangerous as it leads to opposition to the laws, which are constitutional. When laws are enacted they should be strictly obeyed, but if they are counter to the interests of the masses they will be repealed, whether good or bad. And I am inclined to the opinion that when a law is enacted by a small majority against a strong minority it will be of doubtful utility. The opposition ~~will~~ in such cases, will generally increase in number, by the occasion of those who become disaffected with government; and when the passions are roused, there is no calculating to what length they may go. A law passed at one Session and repealed at the next has a bad effect, as it tends to weaken the respect due to the laws, and destroys ~~the respect~~ confidence in the legislature.

On the present license law much might be said for and against it. But I am, on the whole, satisfied that it is inexpedient at this time, and perhaps impracticable at any time. Confirmed tipplers cannot be reclaimed by law; they are lost to society. Let our youth be taught to avoid ardent spirits & few will become habitual drinkers.

June 13. Thursday. Cloudy morn breeze from SW Last night cold. P.M. the clouds thicken, & a fog covers the hills, with a gentle mist.

Subscription for a Paper

An agent for the Massachusetts Abolition Society, presented a subscription for the Massachusetts Abolitionist, printing at Boston, at 1 dollar per year, to which I put my name, and took his receipt for 1 Dollar; the paper to commence on 16 June current. His name C.P. Johnson, and he had a voucher of his appointment signed by A. Phelps

Slave ry

I want no argument to convince me of the heinousness of slavery, and its utter incompatibility with republican principles. I take the paper for the purpose of learning the progress of reason among the people and its effects in the southern states, without the expectation of living to see so great an object effected as the emancipation of the southern blacks. Yet I think the time is not distant, when these unfortunate men will be freed from their chains, either by the consent of their masters, or by bloody efforts on the part of the slaves. The present state of things can not continue.

Remarking upon Slavery, Mr Jefferson, in 1781, said: "The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners and morals undepraved by such circumstances: And with what exertion should the statesman be loaded, who permitting

June
13

one half of the citizens thus to trample on the rights of others, transforms those into despots, and these into enemies, destroys the morals of the ~~other~~ one part, and the amor patriae of the other.” And again: “Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed the only firm bases, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with his wrath? Indeed I tremble for my Country when I reflect that God is just; that his justice cannot sleep forever” ; And “that the Almighty has no attribute which can take side with us in such a contest.” (See Notes on the State of Virginia Query 18th). An excellent text for abolitionists, as well as a solemn warning to our southern brethren. Let them pause before it is too late! Before the dagger shall reek not only with their own blood, but with that of their wives and children! God grant that this catastrophe may be avoided by a voluntary surrender of their cruel usurpation and brutal disregard to the rights of their fellow beings.

Could we perceive a disposition in the southern people to prepare their young negroes for freedom, by any probable means, we should be less severe in our denunciations. But alas! we see nothing of this. On the contrary some of their most eminent men unequivocally and publicly declare they will never submit to an ~~emancipation of their~~ [—]

June
13

An emancipation of their slaves in any condition; and that they are determined to perpetuate slavery ~~its~~ to the last. If this be the feeling of the people at large, and no [] can remove it, every friend of liberty is justifiable for any reasonable exertion he may make to break down the system of Slavery; and the slaves for the exercise of proven which they may find in the hands, even if this exercise shall be attended with the destruction of their assumed masters, however disastrous may be the result. The right to hold slaves is nothing but power, and when power is in the hands of slaves, they have the right to exercise it, so far as to break their chains, and perhaps to demand reparation for wrongs they have suffered from loss of their liberty.

See
page
111
14

Friday Fair morn & northerly wind
Day fair & pleasant throughout moderate air. Now why these cool days and sudden changes from cool to hot the sun remaining at about the same altitude?

Books. In a Boston Paper the following
Books are advertised for sale viz

June 14	<u>Practical Treatise on Rail Roads and Locomotive Engines</u> , for the use of Engineers Mechanics, and others, illustrated by 250 engravings, by <u>Luke Hebert</u> .
Books	<u>The Engineers and Mechanics Encyclopedia</u> , by the same Author <u>Grier's Mechanics Pocket Dictionary</u> . <u>Alison's History of the French Revolution</u> , from its commencement in 1789, to the Restoration of the Bourbons in 1815—6 Vols. 8 vo. The above English Editions. <u>Beauties of Everett</u> . Selections from the works of the Hon. Edward Everett with a sketch of his Life, by <u>James Burns</u> ; just published. <u>Travels in Southeastern Asia</u> , embracing Hindustan, Malaya, Siam, and China, with notes of numerous nations, and a full account of the Burman Empire, with dissertations, tables &c. by <u>Howard Malcom</u> . <u>Macomb's Tactics</u> . A concise system, together with the manner of doing duty in garrison & camp, as established for the government of the Regular Army: Prepared & arranged by Capt. S. Cooper, Aid de Camp and assistant Adjutant General, under the supervision of Maj. Gen. Alexander Macomb, commanding the Army of the U States. <u>Dumas's Travels</u> , 1 Vol. 12 mo. <u>Haywards Gazetteer</u> is highly recommended. By what
Tactics &c	

June 14 what means Mr Hayward obtained the matter for his work, is to me unknown. From maps he may have fixed the positions of the Counties and towns; but without some correspondence with the inhabitants he must have been deficient in minutia, as relates to many essentials. I fear the work will be found faulty in this respect.

15 Saturday A clear morn and S.W. wind- not a cloud to be seen. At 10 A.M. small cumulo clouds appear in the west. Have they been wafted from a distance, or generated where they appear, by the condensation of the vapor in the air? They appear nearly stationary, though the wind is brisk at SW: but this appearance may be owing to their distance. At noon no cloud was observed east of the meridian, excepting a few small patches in the SE; nor were many seen in the West. A southerly wind continued brisk through the afternoon and contrary to my expectations the sky was pretty free from clouds. I had anticipated showers, and had they occurred, intended to have noticed the formations minutely The day was very hot.

Clouds

16 Sunday. Cloudy morn, or rather over spread with cumulo stratus clouds with openings showing the sky- wind West; a

June
16

little fall of rain last night- air cool.
Clear about 9 A.M. and brisk N. Wester
At 11 the air so cold that I found a
fire in my room necessary. Here again
we have another proof that the heat of a place
does not depend alone on the position of the
sun or the lat. The coldness of the air this day, we
might suppose was owing to a flow of the
air from the northern regions to supply, or
restore, the equilibrium of the atmosphere
caused by the heat of the sun rendering the
air south of us lighter. But the question is
why this effect is not uniform at all
times? Hence it is evident some other cause
is in operation.

Dr
Dick
on the
sun's
influ
ence

Remarking upon the effect of the Sun upon the
different planets Dr Dick says: "The degree of
heat, on any planet, and on different portions
of the same planet, must depend in part, and
perhaps chiefly, on the nature of the atmosphere,
and other circumstances connected with the
constitution of the planet in combination
with the influence of the sun's rays. These
rays undoubtedly produce heat, but the
degree of its intensity will depend on the
nature of the substances on which they fall;
as we find the same degree of sensible heat
is not felt when they fall on a piece of iron
or marble as when they fall on a piece of
wood or flannel." Celestial Scenery page 57
In the afternoon the weather fair until about

June 16 3 oclock, when a slight shower passed across the south; the wind still brisk and part of the day very strong. Other sprinklings from cirro stratus clouds, during the after noon: no thunder during the day.

17 Monday Morning Fair with a N.W. wind. Afternoon sky hazy air becoming warmer.

Ancient Furnaces found in Ohio

See Washington County in Jenkins' Gazetteer

In Jenkins' Gazetteer of the State of Ohio, we find the following description of Smelting furnaces, found in the township of Liberty in the County of Washington, the same in which Marietta is situated. Near the beds of pyrites that abound here ~~they found~~ are numerous furnaces, built of stone with hearths composed of clay. They contain cinders with pieces of stone coal partly consumed, which had been used for fusing and smelting ores. Iron ore he says, is found in detached masses in nearly all the hills, but not in great quantities. The furnaces are very ancient, as large forest trees are growing immediately in some of them. No less than 20 or 30, have been discovered within the space of a few miles.

By what people were these furnaces constructed and worked? It will hardly be supposed, by the Indians. May they

not have been the work of the Spaniards who first settled the Country on the Mississippi, and who must have ascended to the Muskingum in search of Gold and silver?

June 17
Conjectures

In 1541, history informs us, ~~that~~ De Soto & his Spaniards were in Missouri where they remained 40 days; and an exploring party was sent to examine the regions to the N. (See Bancroft, Vol. 1 page 59 & 60). The age of the forest trees mentioned by Jenkins, makes nothing against this supposition. But if Soto's men did not ascend the Ohio to the Muskingum, other Spaniards might have been led to it, by representations made to them subsequently by the Indians, with whom they might have had intercourse; and some Spanish relics which are said to have been found at Pompey, in the State of New York, favor the supposition. The pyrites mentioned by Jenkins, might have been mistaken for Gold by the Indians, and represented as such to the Spaniards.

See page 126

Washington County bounds S. on the Ohio and embraces the lower part of Muskingum river, on which is the fine town of Marietta, the first settlement made by civilized men in the State. This was in 1788 by eight families, under the guidance of Gen. Rufus Putnam. The elevated plain on which a larger proportion of the town stands, is the site of

June
17 of curious and extensive remains of the labor and ingenuity of an ancient race of people, who once overspread the western Country, and whose history remains a problem yet to be solved.

Re
marks
on
Ohio
State The rapid progress of settlements in Ohio cannot but excite astonishment. From a wild region inhabited by the rude Indian and wild animals, within 50 years it has been spread over by a civilized and industrious people, amounting in 1830 to 937, 637, and at this time probably to nearly one and a half million. Had this progress been predicted in 1788, when I was at the age of 23 years, it would have been deemed as the wild imagination of an enthusiast. What a population may not our other western state present within 50 years from this time! Should a Rail way be constructed from the Mississippi to the the mouth ~~mouth~~ of the Oregon, within that period, it would not be more surprising than what has occurred, within the last 50 years.

18 Tuesday Sun seen in the morn,
but the sky soon covered with clouds;
the wind south. At 11 AM wind
S.E. an uncommon quarter here, but {—}
variable from SE to SW and sun occasion

June
18

ally out; air warm. PM clouds covered the sky some a sprinkling of rain fell between 3 & 4, and considerable rain followed until night, with a brisk wind.

19

Wednesday Fair sun & cool N.W. wind this morn, which continued through the day: wind brisk and cold, and fire necessary in my sitting room. I fear a front. Boston Weekly Messenger, edited by Nathan Hale, at the office Nos 6 & 8 Congress street. Price 2 dol. pr annum. This paper is printed on a large sheet, containing 28 columns, and for quantity of matter is not exceeded by any paper in the U States exclusive of Advertisements, of which very few are inserted. To fill up such a paper weekly, must be no small task, and ~~must~~ necessarily require the admittance of much that is not interesting to all tastes. In the perusal of such a paper, my method is to cast my eye over the columns, and select such pieces as are adapted to my taste; and I generally search for subjects that are connected with science and art; passing those containing ~~political~~ scriblings relating to politics: of course I often find but meager gleanings, and throw down the paper with disquiet. Those however who are fond of political matter may find much ~~with which~~ to gratify themselves (I

Hale's Messenger

June
19

I have sometimes thought that our papers were more [] than useful, as they contain too much light reading, which tends to draw off the attention from important subjects, and create a taste for frivolous matter, and the effect of political squibbing is no better. But it is admitted that papers embracing nothing but the substantial would not find readers among the people at large, and of course they could not be supported, without the admission of light stuff.

In Mr Hale's paper we find much relating to European politics, particularly to the proceedings of the British Parliament; but often if no more consequence than what relates to the regulations of the young Queen's house hold maids, and other trifling affairs of the nation, which to me have no sort of interest. It is, however, generally esteemed by the public, ~~were~~ has a great circulation; and a political paper it has merit. But for myself I should select one of a more scientific cast, if to be found.

Often the pages of most of our papers are filled with long ~~are~~ {——} fictitious stories that afford neither instruction nor amusement, to the exclusion of all didactic matter and even a long interesting essay must be divided to give room for ~~trash~~ the useless

June
20

Thursday Morn fair, but hazy sky
with S. Wind, the air warmer than yesterday: PM wind veered to the south west; the sky still hazy and very few dense clouds are seen. If the mixture of southern vapor produces clouds why do we not see them now? It is difficult to form any certain theory relating to their formation~
The Letters of John Q. Adams, addressed to the Citizens of the U States, now publishing in our papers, contain much matter of moment to the nation, and ought to engage the attention of the friends of liberty. He says "The danger which I believe at this time most immediately threatens the Union arises from the struggle of the states in which slavery has taken too deep root to be peaceably eradicated, to preserve, extend, and perpetuate that particular institution.

Adam
m's Letters

The principal assumed and so earnestly maintained by them, that neither the people of the free states nor Congress have any right to interfere in any manner with their institutions, is not sufficient to serve their turns. They are continually summoning the free States to sacrifice their own principles, to sustain the institution of slavery. "We have seen them call importunately upon the free states for penal laws to punish their own citizens for harboring or performing the offices of common humanity to fugitive slaves." And after citing several instances
of

June
20

Adams
Letters

of this kind, he says, "The policy of the South with regard to the affairs of the Union is extensively devoted to that object. That was the impulse under which they effected the dismemberment of Mexico, and the establishment of the Republic of Texas. A part of that plan, as you now know, was to annex to this Union the new Republic, with an additional belt of five degrees of latitude across this Continent to the South Sea. Had that plan been consummated, a territory sufficient for the foundation of ten states with the new bond of irrevocable slavery upon their brows would have been brought to sit like an incubus upon the nation, and nothing less than the inextinguishable energies of freedom could have saved you from the reinstituted course of slavery upon yourselves." This scheme Mr Adams thinks is still at work and as active as ever, and he mentions the Carolina party, who look to a double process of Texian amalgamation and separation from the North.

Re
marks }
on }

My opinion has been that a separation of the Union under present circumstances, is not the object of the Southern people, as they must see that such an event would probably weaken their power over their slaves, and in case of a war between the two divided nations effect a destruction of

June
20

Slavery

slavery on the southern nation.

But when new slave states shall have been added to the union, so as to give the southern section a strong ascendancy over the northern, the "Carolina party" may be ready for a disunion of the States, by which they might for some time be able to sustain their abominable system of negro slavery. Yet let them not flatter themselves that they will ~~would~~ be able to sustain it for a long time.

Surrounded by contiguous free nations no slave nation can maintain its slave institutions. If the present experiment of freedom in the West Indies shall prove successful, and France shall adopt the same plan in her Islands, while Mexico and the northern states remain free, slavery in the circumscribed nation must be of short duration. Wars will be unavoidable so long as men are governed by avarice; and it would be a miracle if surrounding free nations should submit to the impositions necessary for sustaining the system of slavery in a slave nation. Wars then will occur. And woe to the slave nation that adventures on a contest ~~war~~ with strong contiguous free ones. Let then the southern states form a slave union, which must of course be a weak military one, and at tempt to enforce their impositions upon free

June
20

Slavery.

neighboring nations, and their doom would soon be sealed. Blind indeed must be the southern people if they cannot see this. They may however remain blind, and separate themselves from their northern brethren, provided they can obtain a sufficient strength to effect it. But let them remember that in case of such an event, they will be crushed by the spirit of liberty now prevailing the nations of the world, and become a by word among freemen. Slavery then will not and cannot be sustained, unless science, arts, morals, and a sense of the justice of God be obliterated. Speaking of Abolition and Colonization Societies Mr Adams says: "I believe the plans hitherto proposed by them all so far as regards the abolition of slavery, utterly impracticable; and I believe them all equally liable, at this time, to the charge of pertinaciously persisting in the pursuit of objects obviously and notoriously impracticable." For the ~~abolition~~ emancipation of slaves or the abolition of slavery in the U States, he says "the search for the philosopher's stone, or the casting of nativities by the course of the stars, were rational & sensible amusements in comparison with the serious undertaking of the Colonization
ation

June
20

Slavery

ation society” As respects the latter Society I think him perfectly correct; but why he should charge the former ~~of~~ with pertinaciously persisting in measures impracticable when their design has been to enlighten the people on the subject of slavery, and to remove the evil by lawful means if possible, I do not see. Are freemen to remain silent when they see their fellow creatures in misery, inflicted upon them by men who have no other right to such usurpation than that of power? And what have the abolition societies attempted but the diffusion of this light? For this, it is true, they have been threatened with vengeance, and not only by the southern slaveholders, but by their brethren who profess to hold to the principles of the dedication of Independence, that all men are ~~born free~~ created and equal. Yet more, they have felt this vengeance from those pretenders of liberty, even to the shedding of blood. After his conclusive reasonings against Slavery, will Mr Adams say that free men shall remain dumb, and lament in silence that their brother republicans can thus inflict sanguinary cruelty on their fellow man? Abolish these societies and little would be heard of the [] of slavery; the southern planter would then be free to exercise the lash upon the unfortunate black, and the avaricious trader in cotton, indigo & tobacco, in the northern states,

June
20

Slavery

to enjoy the profits of his traffick with out remorse. Freemen will not thus submit to degradation and wrong, even if the exercise of their rights, in speaking and writing, shall produce a perturbation in of the union. Where it becomes dangerous to act freely than freedom is at an end, and liberty a farce~

The attempt to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia may indeed be fruitless, as long as so many at the North are opposed to it. Mr Adams says "no member of Congress from any one of the southern states, where slavery is established, would dare vote for abolition in the District; nor could he return with safety to his person among his constituents if he should." The time may come when the members from the free states will find their votes not less influenced by their constituents. The moral influence of freemen, it is true will forbid personal violence; but a political ~~may~~ death may ~~be~~ certain to follow the refusal of a vote against slavery. If it be true, as Mr Adams says, that the southern members of Congress dare not vote from fear of personal violence, whence are we to derive confidence in the rectitude of the ~~other~~ laws they may

June
20

enact? If fear is to operate in cases of slavery, why not in laws relating to taxes, or the punishment of fashionable crimes: And if this is the actual state of society, in the southern states, to what can we attribute it but to the existence of slavery? Mr Jefferson seems to have understood the effects of ~~slavery~~ this institution. He says, "The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners & morals undepraved by such circumstances" What can be nearer the truth?

Slavery

The existence of slavery in the United States is a most unfortunate circumstance. Without it, the States might be happy and prosperous under a union, with it one section will be pitted against another, the slave section to maintain their unnatural institution, will constantly be making inroads upon the rights of the other; this will create irritation which may end in hostile ties, and our future history may be a record of blood. (See page 120 to 134 of this No.)

21

Friday. Morning overspread with thin clouds through which the sun was seen, wind South and air warm.
PM Clouds much the same, with appearance of a Shower in the south and some thunder, and between 5 & 6 a sprinkling of rain here. At

June 22 7 another small rain with some thunder, All from the SW. quarter.
Saturday Cloudy morn, nearly calm and last night much rain fell. PM a wind from NE & still cloudy & rather cool. and much the same weather continued to the close of the day.

Suns position The Sun has now reached the tropic of Cancer, and ~~now~~ pours down his rays from a meridian altitude of about 7' degrees, the same for several days, we have had no very hot weather. Corn and grass crops are not so forward as at this time last year, when our people commenced mowing. Some say that the grass crop is rather light and not ready for the sythe (as Webster gives the name) Wheat and rye appear well.

Reflections Since my last notice of the summer solstice what a distance our Earth has been whirled through its orbit at the rate of about 1,600,000 miles pr. day, and still very part of the astronomical machine remains in complete order! At the first thought can we form an [a]dequate [] of such a stupendous machine as that presented to us by astronomers; and do we not conceive it

June
22

it all to be a force contrived by man to wild imaginations? this would be natural to the uninformed in the science of astronomy. But when we look to the heavens with the eye of the mathematician- when we ~~look at~~ behold their phenomena through the telescope and set our reasoning faculties to work, all doubt vanishes; and raising our ideas above the contracted prejudices of the vulgar, we are “clearly convinced and affected with the conviction of the existence wisdom, power, goodness, immutability and superintendency of the Supreme Being.”

“View the amazing canopy
The wide the wonderful expanse
Let each bold infidel agree
That God is there, unknown to chance.”³

Astronomy
perfection
of

The perfection to which astronomy has been brought since the discoveries and theories of the great Newton, cannot but excite our admiration. Astronomers now solve ~~handle~~ their most intricate problems with as much faculty as the seaman finds his latitude and longitude. The science is not a doubtful one to be set aside by future discoveries. It may be improved by more perfect instruments, but the great principles as laid down by Newton, La Place and others, will remain; they are founded on the immutable laws of God, and

³ From the poem, *Midnight Thoughts*, by Christopher Jones.

and all that men can do, is to discover and apply them to practice. Astronomy as well as other sciences that have their foundation in nature, are by some called the works of men. They are not so. Men give the technology, God the laws and principles, and he who sees them cannot but admire, wonder and adore~

June 22

Mass. Abolitionist.

Adams 2d Letter

Memo. Recd. the Massachusetts Abolitionist from Boston, June 20th No 18, Vol. 1 the first for 1 year by subscription. It shows a good spirit in its cause. A part of Mr Adams' 2d letter which I had not perused, is inserted. Speaking of the daring encroachments already made by the Slave states, upon the rights of the free ones, he says: "It is for them that you will have ultimately to stand to your Arms; and it is for them that I would gladly now see you buckle on your armour." Slavery he thinks ~~says~~ will be extinguished throughout the world. "But that the day is yet far distant I am not permitted to doubt; and that in our own Country it will be preceded by convulsions and revolutions in the moral, political, and physical world, from which I turn my eyes to more cheering contemplations, appears to be probable."

After reciting several of the murders and

June
22

burning of buildings &c. by mobs, he adds,
“When I witness scenes like these transacted
in the face of day; when I hear principles
like these spring from the professor’s chair,
from the chancellor’s bench, from the diplo-
matic saloon, and from the land-jobbers
gaming and dinner table, all in frightful
harmony with one another, I hang my
head in despondency at the prospects of
the rights of man, for the short remnant
of my days, throughout the Union, and even
in the District of Columbia.”

Mr Adams’ prospects are gloomy;
but who that has carefully noticed recent
wants and learned the peculiar feelings
of the southern people, will say they are
too darkly shaded?

If Mr. Adams has truly represented
the irritable state of the Southern people,
no doubt we shall be told that this [] feeling
has been produced by our efforts to bring
about an emancipation of their slaves,
and that therefore we must cease
our efforts for the sake of harmony.
Those who believe in the good effect of such {—} obsequious con-
duct, know little of the policy of the
southern leaders, ~~They~~ who no doubt would
applaud such a retrogression of the principles
of liberty, and very complaisantly receive our

humble and submissive bow, and promise of amendment in the future.

June
22

But such placid conduct would not satisfy: We should be required to act in their cause; and should they be able to effect their object of annexing new southern and western slave state to the Union, instead of emancipation of the present slaves, we might look for a reinstitution of slavery throughout the Union & that as soon as the southern section should find themselves a majority.

Dr
Channing
on Slavery

Is there no grounds for such apprehension? The answer is strikingly given by Dr. Channing "I see the north giving way to the vehemence of the south +++. Not long ago there were rumors that some of our citizens wished to suppress by law, all discussion, all expression of opinion on slavery, and to send to the South such members of the community as might be claimed as instigators of insurrection +++. Public sentiment has seemed to me to be losing its healthfulness and vigor. I have seen symptoms of decline of the old spirit of liberty. Servile operations have seemed to gain ground among us. The faith of our fathers in free institutions has waxed, faint, and is giving place to despair of human improvements. I have perceived a disposition to deride abstract rights, to speak of freedom

- June
22 as a dream, and of Republican govern
ments as built ~~up~~ in sand. I have per
ceived a faint heartedness in the cause of hu
manity rights. The condemnation which
has been cast on abolitionists, has seemed
to be settling into acquiescence in slavery.
The sympathies of the community have
been turned from the slave to the master.”
These retrogressive principles of liberty must
have been seen by every discerning man; and
they may be “the beginning of concessions which
we shall one day bitterly rue” See page 3 & 24 no 13
- 23 Sunday Fair day, with a breeze
at NW. many cumulo stratus clouds at Noon,
and air mild. This afternoon the atmos
phere in general free from clouds & of course
a bright sun at the summer solstice, yet cool
and pleasant. How is this temperature to
be explained? On some of our Summer
days the thermometer ranges to nearly 100°
even when the sun is not very bright,
and within a short time after to 70° or
lower, the sun remaining nearly at the same
altitude. I often repeat the question, because
it constantly occurs to my mind.
- 24 Monday. Fair Morn, wind gentle at S.
and air cool. I found a fire necessary in my
sitting room at 11 A.M., when the sun was cov
ered by extended clouds. Most of the day cloudy
and a few drops of rain fell.

June 25 Tuesday. Morn fair, wind Southerly, some rain last night, wind soon veered to N.W. and gave us a cool and pleasant day.

Jona Dickinson call of An old acquaintance, Jonathan Dickin son Esq. of Elbridge/Camillus in the State of New Y. gave me a call. About 28 years since accompanied by him, I made a tour up Lake Erie into the state of Ohio. He informs me he was in the same Country last year, and was surprised at the improvements there made. Where [] found extended woods, farms & villages are now seen, teeming with inhabitants, and the Country has undergone a complete transformation. He is now 61 years of age; son of the late Col. Dickinson of this town. Says that several sons of my old friend Col. William Stevens reside in his town and are respectable.

26 Wednesday. Morn foggy but dissipated at the rise of the sun & then fair, wind N. The day fair & pleasant throughout without many clouds.

Western Mound American Antiquities. In our papers we now and then find accounts of the recent discoveries made in the Mounds of our western Country, but in general they are rendered doubtful from the vagueness of the statements & want of discrimination of the writers. I do not however despair of the discovery, in future time, of data that may bring to light the origin of the works

that have been found. To me there seems to be two kinds of them; one very ancient consisting of rude materials, the work of savages ~~people~~, the other of more recent date, the work of civilized people. The most remarkable of the latter have been discovered in the Country of Onondago in the State of N York. Among these are various metallic implements such as chains, gun bareels, and blacksmiths tools; particularly in the townships of Pompey, Onandago and Camillus.

In the appendix to the Life of Brant, by Co. Stone (Vol. 2) we find some data concerning these relicks, by De Witt Clinton, said to have been collected from the Six Nations, and partly from a manuscript journal of one of the French Jesuits. The following is the substance of the information (page 47 of appendix)

In 1666, at the request of an Onondago Chieftain, a French Colony was directed to repair to his village for the purpose of teaching the Indians arts & sciences, and to endeavor to civilize and Christianize them. (His name Karakontoc) The Indians, at this time, had a fort above the village of Jamesville on the banks of a small stream, a little above which the Chief would have his new friends sit down. A few months raised a small village (aided by the Indians)

The little Colony remained 3 years; in a peacable & flourishing situation & built a small chapel in which the Jesuit preached to the Indians & French. About 1669 a party of 23 Spaniards arrived at the village, under the guidance of the Iroquois, who had

D.W.
Clinton's
[]
[]

Kara
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June
26

Anti
quities
in N.
York
State

been taken captive by the southern tribes, It is supposed they came up the Mississippi, as it has been "ascertained" they passed Pittsburg, and on to Olian Point, where leaving their canoes, they travelled by land. They had been informed by some of the southern tribes that there was a lake at the North, whose bottom was covered with a substance shining & white & they took it from the Indians description to be silver. But being told on arrival there was none ever seen in or about Onondago Lake, they were offended & sought a quarrel with the French because they thought the mines were kept secret. The Spaniards attempted to explore the Country to find the silver The Indians at length growing jealous of both French and Spaniard ~~Indians~~ who they supposed were plotting a scheme to rob them of their lands. The Oneidas & Cayugas were collected and on all Saints day 1669, a little before day break, the Colony & Spaniards were attacked by the Indians with fire arms; Every house was immediately fired or broken open, and all the Europeans were killed not one [] to relate the disaster. Thus perished the little colony whose labors have excited so much wonder and curiosity.

The French in Canada, on making inquiries respecting the fate of their friends, were informed by the Indians that they had gone towards the south, and at the same time, they showed a Spanish coat of arms, and other national trinkets. This was confirmed by a Frenchman who had long lived among the Senecas and who visited Onondago at the time the Saniards were there.

The history, in the opinion of the learned author, accounts for the appearance, at this place, of a small village with evident remains of a Blacksmith's shop,

June
26

Inscription found at Pompey

as seen at the first settlement by the English.
(Where Mr Clinton procured the Jesuits manu
script does not appear)

It is added by another writer, that in several
other places in the Country the remains of Black
smiths' shops have been discovered, and in some
instances the tools used by the trade. A Black
smiths vice was found, deep in the ground, on
a farm in Onondago Hollow, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile south
of the turnpike, and the remains of an old fort near
the spot accounts for their relics. On Onondago Creek
[] implements of war & husbandry have
been found scattered 4 or 5 miles in length. Swords,
gun barrels, gun locks, bayonets, beads, axes, hoes and
various other articles of iron, have been found. I
have, says he a sword dug up on the farm of Mr Wyman
where are found all the above articles. On the same
farm a stone of considerable dimensions was found
on which was carved (rudely) some European cha
racters; but it has been lost. A stone has been
procured in the Albany museum found some
years ago in the town of Pompey, 14 inches long by
12 broad & 8 in thickness, containing an inscription. In
the centre was the figure of a tree with a serpent
climbing it. Thus

Leo X Do (The tree &c) $\mathcal{L}s$

Vix 1520 $\dagger\Omega$

The inscription (says he) may be thus translated.
Leo X by the grace of God; sixth year of his pontifi
cate. 1520. The stone doubtless designed as a sepul
chral monument, and the letters $\mathcal{L}s$ probably the
initials of the name of the person deceased. The cross
to inform that he was a Catholic; the reversed U
some other emblem (Spaniards in Mexico 1521) The

June
26

writer (Rev. Mr Adams of Syracuse) thinks there can be little doubt but Spaniards, arrived there as captives or allured by the love of god, were at Pompey Hill as early as 1520.

Brant's
research
es

In the 2d vol. page 486, some account of Brants efforts, made in France to determine if emigrants left that nation in early times to settle in America. He obtained nothing however, further than that about 1520 several ships were fitted out and sailed from L'Orient bound to N America, freighted with goods, and carrying out a number of traders & other individuals, with familys to plant a colony; but nothing was recorded concerning their enterprise. Probably these were the Ships of Cartier & Roberval, and the date placed 20 or 30 years too early.

According to Brant a tradition prevailed among the Indians, that in an age long ago, there came white men from a foreign country & settled in this country, by consent of the Indians, and were at length cut off to a man. (See page 484). Were these "Northmen" of whom we have lately heard, by the Society of Northern antiquities of Copenhagen?

A more probable explanation I think can be given~

Letter

Recd a Letter of June 12 1839, from Son Arthur at Springfield, Illinois. Has had a touch of fever & ague.

June 27	<u>Thursday</u> . Morning fair but hazy sky and calm. Meridian south wind prevailed: the day generally cloudy & a little rain fell air cool.
28	<u>Friday</u> Cloudy & rainy morn, wind N. most of the day wet. Sun out at 6 PM.
29	<u>Saturday</u> Morn broken clouds; Wind south at Noon & sky clear- Afternoon wind NW with wide spread clouds, some thunder and rain Air warm.
Mowing	Our people are at this time cutting their grass. A few began some days ago: Grass not large.
New Book	<u>Democracy in America</u> , by Alexis de Tacqueville, <u>Avocat a la Couer Royale de Paris</u> . Translated by Henry Reeve Esq. 1 Vol. 8 vo. p. 464.
Tacqueville	This work has been published at New York last year, with an original Preface and notes, by John C. Spencer. Counselor at Law It is the fruits of a Tour made in this Country by the author, and has attracted great attention in Europe, as containing much information of our democratical institutions, and should be read by Americans, not only for instruction, but to give us the views of enlightened Europeans, concerning our Government. The author is sometimes incorrect in some of his statements, but less so than most other travelers. These Mr Spencer has corrected

June
29

Tacqueville on Democracy

in his notes, in an appendix. Mr Spencer says, "it is hoped that the Citizens of the U States will patiently read and candidly consider the views of this accomplished foreigner, however hostile they may be to their own preconceived opinions and prejudices." "No foreigner, (he says) has ever exhibited such a deep, clear, and correct insight of the machinery of our complicated systems of Federal and State governments."

In his Introduction M. Tacqueville says "This Book is written to favor no particular views, and in composing it I have entertained no design of serving or attacking any party: I have undertaken not to see differently, but to look further than parties, and whilst they are busied for the morrow, I have turned my thoughts to the Future."

He like many others at this time, seems to think that a great revolution is now going on in the minds of the people of Europe in relation to governments, and that the democratic form will finally overturn those of the aristocratic structure. The experiment of the former, now making in America, as given by the author, will no doubt be extensively read in Europe with great interest; and to prevent false impressions from some inaccuracies of his it is important that the corrections of Mr Spencer should meet their eyes.

June
30

Sunday Fair day wind NW.
very clear and pleasant, the wind a gentle breeze
At sun set a perfect calm; the sky clear and
nature puts on a placid appearance. All
the disturbing elements seem to be in equilibrium & at rest. The all preceding and universal/steady
[—] principle gravity, is still active &
whirling us through the heavens with unabated force, yet we perceive it not!
“That very Law that moulds a tear
And bids it trickle from its source,
That Law preserves the Earth a sphere,
And guides the planets in their course.”⁴

Machine
of nature

How wonderful is the machine of nature! By a due improvement of the faculties given him, man sees and understands a part and while he admires he looks for further knowledge. In this he differs from other animals, that rest satisfied with the gratification of their instinctive appetites.

The
horse

I have somewhere noticed the remarks of a plain farmer upon the intelligence of dumb animals, which may deserve repeating
“The horse knows (said he) but does not know that he knows; but man knows, and he knows that he knows.” The distinction is good, and perhaps as accurate as can be given by the most learned.

⁴ Samuel Rogers, *On a Tear*.

July
1

Monday morning overspread with thin clouds, but the sun seen; wind at first northerly & cool, but soon changed to south. Most of the day fair & moderately warm, with some appearances of showers in the west; the wind brisk from the south.

Sus
que
han
na
Survey
of its
mouth

Mr Grimmell sends me a Report of the Survey of the mouth of Susquehanna River & the head waters of Chesapeake Bay, with a Chart, made by order of Congress, with a view of improving the Harbor of Havre de Grace.

It seems that from the great quantity of detritus brought down the River, the waters are becoming shallow both in the River & at the head of the Bay, and thereby the navigation of sea vessels impeded. The desideration is to deepen a channel which shall keep itself free from alluvial obstructions.

The quantity of detritus brought down rivers is often immensely great, and the consequence is that their [] are constantly filling up. In estimating the transporting power of water, the Engineer, (Geo. W Hughes) says, "we must not forget its buoyancy, on which, indeed its force mainly depends. The specific gravity of many Rocks is but a little more than twice that of water granit and limestone being about 2.50. The ease with which a person will lift a large stone in water to the surface

July
1

is a well known fact, dependant on the buoyancy of the fluid. If a man can lift in air, a rock weighing 100 lbs, whose specific gravity is 2.00, he can lift, with the same case, 200 lbs. in water. It is from overlooking these facts that we are often surprised at the immense rocks which are frequently torn from their beds, and transported considerable distances by the force of Mountain torrents.”

From these facts it may also be seen how easily rocks are transported from place to place by water, when they are attached to large masses of floating ice, even where the current is not rapid.

Havre
de
Grace

Havre de Grace, situated on the western side at the mouth of the Susquehanna, it is supposed will become a great place of trade, when the canals in Pennsylvania are completed; and the Engineer says “it would form a convenient port for an arsenal of Arms, provisions and munitions of war.” Would it not be too much exposed to an enemy commanding a superior Naval force?

The width of the Susquehanna at its mouth, measured from the Light house on the west shore, is stated at 4600 feet; and its greatest depth 56 feet; near depth = 15,5 feet. Palmers Island lies in the river above the town~

More of Stone's Life of Brant.

At page 21. I have noticed Stones Life of Brant at some length. On a further perusal of the work I find the following fact in relation

July 1	to the Chief. The leader of the Indians in the attack on Gen. St Clair, Nov 4 1791, has been supposed to be <u>Micheamnaqua</u> , or the <u>Little Turtle</u> a chief of the Miamis. It is believed however, that though nominally the commander in Chief, he was indebted both to the counsels and the prowess of another Chief: 150 of the Mohawks were engaged in this battle; and Gen. St Clair probably died in ignorance of the fact, that one of the master spirits against whom he contended and by whom he was so signally defeated, was none other than <u>Joseph Brant-Thayendane</u> . The fact, Stone says, has been derived by him the author , from Brant's family. If this be true, it is remarkable that it has not found a place in history until this time. The Indian force is said to have been from 100 to 1500; and the battle on their part of the Indians evinced bravery and steady perseverance, beyond any found in our Indian History. Braddock's defeat (1755) was of a different character.
Military Remarks	How far the movements of a large body of Indians in the woods, can be regulated by a skillful commander in the times of action, is a matter of doubt. No mechanism is found among them by which concert of action & [] obedience can be insured; this must be left in a great measure to the chiefs leading the clans, and if there is a unity of action it must be by chance. but such a commander as Brant may will do much previous to a battle, by choosing the <u>time</u> & <u>place</u> and <u>inspiring</u> his followers; and also by inducing them
Indian forces	to

July
1

Sullivan's Expedition

redirect their attack when repulsed, or in draw[in]g them off when he sees no probability of success. In the attack upon St Clair the numbers on each side was about equal, but ~~and~~ a great proportion of our troops were militia, and perhaps inferior in battle to the Indians. In Sullivan's expedition in 1779, Brant commanded the Indians, but in no case except at New town where they were fortified, did he venture to bring them into a general action with Sullivan's regulars. Had Sullivan divided his force into several parties, and marched in different directions, the case would probably have been different. But he wisely kept his men together until he had driven the Indians over Genessee river; nor did he venture to act by detachments until he arrived near Cayuga Lake, on his return to Tioga Point.

In all invasions of an Indian Country, it is necessary that the force be sufficient to beat the enemy in a general action. Small parties are indeed sometimes successful, but this depends on chance which often turns against them. Where an attack can be made by surprise & a rapid retreat follow, a small party may be successful; but little benefit can result from such incursions, for the Indians through driven from their cabins are still at home and suffer little from their ~~loss~~ defeat.

From Sullivans expedition through many villages and large crops of corn of the Indians were destroyed, A little benefit was derived from it. 2nd The two succeeding years they ~~Indians~~ were more active than before, and made depredations to the very skirts of Schenectady & Albany & the whole frontiers suffered severely.

July
1

Where the Indians have become populous, ~~have~~ formed permanent villages, and adopted the arts of agriculture to a considerable extent, they become more tangible, and military expeditions into their thickest settlements may produce a good effect. This was the case with the Creeks and Cherokees in the back parts of the southern state in the Revolutionary war. In several expeditions into their settlements ~~countries~~ the success was complete, and they were soon compelled to sue for peace.

Picken's Expedition

In one of these expeditions, under Gen. Pickens of South Carolina, in 1781, with about 400 mounted men, he burned 13 towns killed upwards of 40 Indians and took a number of prisoners with ~~out~~ scarcely the loss of a man. In this expedition, the attack on horse back, sword in hand, in close fight, was found most effectual; but this mode was impracticable in a Country covered with thick woods, as in the western parts of the northern states, where alert infantry riflemen are a due portion of light artillery were indispensable~

2

Tuesday Morn foggy, but soon cleared off, and a south wind prevailed. PM. many thin spread clouds & brisk wind; air moderate, raising the mercury to 80°

3

Wednesday Heavy clouded, rainy morn, and air warmer; last night the warmest we have had this season. Until this time winter bed clothes were comfortable, & indeed necessary. Where this sudden increase of caloric? Has it radiated from the earth? The wind gentle from South. The clouds

July
3

cleared off before noon, and we had a clear & warm day; in the evening some lightning.

4

Thursday Fair morn with a westerly breeze. Most of the day fair- a few drops of rain from a thin cloud from west. Air moderate.

This is the anniversary of the Declaration of our Independence; The day on which the thirteen states declared the then self evident truths, "that all men are ~~born~~ created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights & that among these are life liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The day is to be celebrated at several places in the Commonwealth; at Greenfield Robert C. Winthrop of Boston, is to deliver an address to an assemblage of people of this County, for which arrangement have been published in the papers by what is called a Whig Party. At Ashfield, I am informed, an opposite party, called Democratic, is to listen to an Address from R. Dickinson of this town. Both parties improve the day, to stimulate the young men to come to the polls at our next elections of State officers, and both to condemn the politics of the other, as destructive of our principles of republicanism. Both may be honest in their views, and yet both
more

Fourth of July anniversary

July
4

Political Parties

more or less in error, which is not likely to be corrected by ex poste representations.

The point in contest between the two parties, does not appear to me of so great importance as some suppose. It is rather a question who shall be at the head of our governments than ~~that~~ what principles shall govern the people.

~~Nearly~~ All northern men, I believe, are attached to a republican form of Government, but they differ in relation to its administration; yet the people at large are not, in fact, at so great a variance as they are led to believe; ~~and~~ Our southern brethren also profess to be republicans and talk much of liberty. But so long as they hold such a number of their fellow men in chains, and traffic in them as they do in their horses and cattle in violation of the self evident truth "that all are created equal.", we can hardly grant them the name of republicans.

One defect in our present parties, is the want of a proper sense of the evil nature and tendency of slavery, as it exists in the southern States & which ~~this~~ is likely to be the great bone of contention between the northern and southern parts of the union; and when it arrives at its height all other disputes, of a minor kind, will subside. Severe conflicts may follow; but they will

July
4

result in the amelioration of that part of community that is now writhing under the grasp of a power which grinds them to dust, and depresses them below the rank of the beasts of the field. That ~~the~~ Republicans of the North ~~that~~ should remain indifferent to the present state of the southern slaves, is a mystery, and spreads a dark veil over their patriotism & their humanity. Nothing but long habit could induce such apathy. It is like that of the boy who felt no pity for the Eels that were skinned a live because they were used to it. One effect of the day, I observe, which I think is harmless. Many of our young people divert themselves in their elegant light vehicles, and visit our glens, our mountains and noted scenery; and if they are inattentive to political subjects, they are not so to social intercourse. So long as these refining sports joined with intelligence, shall be cherished, I fear not a dereliction of republican principles among our youth. "New England first in Freedom's Van, To toil & bleed for injured man, Still true to virtue, dares to say, Order is Freedom Man obey!"⁵

Green
Peas

This day dined with my Neighbor Arms on a fine dish of Green peas. He plants the low bush kind, which are early ~~and~~ ~~early easily~~ raised, with out busking. They may be

⁵ Robert Treat Paine's song, "Rule New England" written and performed at the anniversary of the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society, 1802.

July

4

sown broad east, or planted in rows or hills. The latter is preferable, as the crop may be kept free from weeds.

5

Friday Morn fair; wind North, last night cool. Clear day and afternoon ~~clear~~ & warm.

6

Saturday. Dark, cloudy morn and heavy thunder and rain at about sun rise; Wind NE. PM Fair, with numerous cirro cumulus clouds & a thunder shower about 5 oclock air moderate.

In the News papers of the day we find the Prospectus of a paper, under the title of United States Sentinel and National Union, to be published in the City of New-York. It is to be daily at 10 dollars, Semi-weekly at 5 dollars, for the year, payable in advance.

A large amount of money, it is said has already been subscribed to sustain it, and that John C Calhoun has alone put down his name for 5,000 dollars. "The principles which the paper will advocate will be, the uncompromising and watchful foe to Abolition, which, is said to be, but another name for Disunion." It will aim to convince the many among us, who have been misled by prejudice & fanaticism, that they have no business

Slavery Paper at N York.

July
6

Remarks on the plans

interfere with the domestic institutions of the South. It will prove to them that if civil war and separation result from this unholy war crusade, the shame and sin are upon their heads. It will prove to the abolition merchant who is amassing a fortune from southern patronage, that he makes a poor return by waging war upon his brethren. It will spread before the northern community the truth on this agitating question, without favor and without fear.”

The last part of the above premises, it is hoped, will be strictly adhered to for certain. I am nothing can be more fatal to the “institutions of the south” (a softened expression they have chosen for their infernal system of black slavery) which some of their humane patriots say, is the corner stone of republicanism.

Under the former government of the Deys of Algiers, had our patriots of the South found themselves chained to the wheel barrow in its capitol and drawn to their labor by the lash of their masters, they would have felt most forcibly the good sense of the sentiments advanced in the prospectus. Their misery however great, might have been hushed by the consideration that their servitude was necessary as the corner stone of that government & the happiness of the people, in their “domestic institutions.”

That

July
6

That a paper of the character of the one proposed, should be patronized by the southern aristocracy is not strange but that it should find aid from our northern republicans, is not so readily accounted for at the first view. Cupidity, however, furnishes a ready solution to the seeming mystery; and humiliating as it may be, who can doubt that in the free states men may be found, who would readily engage in fitting out ships with chains and manacles, stalls and confined apartments, for transporting the Africans to the southern parts, could they do it with impunity and thereby enrich their coffers?—I flatter myself that a brighter day is dawning: The subjects even of the monarchs of Europe have opened their eyes to the horrible traffic they have heretofore practiced; and without subscribing to the self evident truth that “all men are created equal”, they are advancing with greater rapidity towards the rights of men than in some of our republican states in America. Tell it not in Gath!⁶

My opinion of the generality of my contemporaries has been favorable, and I still would hope that there are among us, men who cut from humane principle, and would sacrifice something for the public good. But since I have witnessed the singular con

⁶ From 2 Samuel 1:20

July
6

duct of many heretofore considered as respectable, particularly in the virtuous struggle against the murderous institution of Freemasonry and in the case of Slavery, I have been compelled to believe we have fewer good men among us than I had supposed. I was not aware of the deleterious effects of a spirit of cupidity as now exhibited; nor did I believe that the finer sensibilities of our nature could be eradicated and replaced by a selfishness that knows no pity for suffering humanity.

To treat of the subject of slavery and keep within the bounds of moderation, is a difficult task, and I will have quit it, with a stanza from ~~of~~ a recent Poet, adapted to the fourth of July~

“My country! hide thy head for very shame!
A by-word and hissing thou, to Kings:
Thy boasted Liberty is but a name,
While Slavery’s shielded by thine Eagle’s wings.”⁷

7

Sunday Morn cloudy, with a breeze
from south. Sun soon out & air cool
Cirro Cumulus Clouds through the day &
a few drops of rain fell. Cool day.

8

Monday. Morning a thick fog, which soon cleared off- Wind south and rather cool; PM
air warmer at 4 thunder shower from the west; another shower at 6 o’clock of rain
The Ground is now very wet with meadow.

⁷ From G. Russell’s poem, *Fourth of July*.

July
9

Tuesday- Morn foggy, soon clear & calm. Between 10 & 11 o'clock, while no current of air could be perceived, a sudden formation of cumulous clouds was seen in the W & SW, and sprinkling of rain fell, accompanied with distant thunder- air moderate. Are these clouds the effect of sudden condensation of vapor in the atmosphere over us; or are they brought from a distance by imperceptible winds in the higher regions? The former I think most probable.

At this season of the year when the air is calm in the morning & the sun rises clear, the eastern atmosphere is heated and rendered lighter than the western, and of course the latter flows to the east to restore the equilibrium. This is one cause of the prevalence of our westerly winds. In the vicinity of the Ocean the effect may not be the same; for the coldness of the water may effect the temperature of the atmosphere over it. Were the surface of the Earth all land or all water, and the Sun the only cause of temperature, probably the winds would be more uniform, while the declination of the sun continued ~~was~~ nearly the same. P.M. Several Masses of Clouds indicating showers appeared of the cumulo form; but soon assuming the cirro appearance, they seem to dissipate or pass off with little or no rain. A gentle breeze from NW & some distant thunder. Air moderate.

Winds

10

Wednesday. Morn foggy & calm; clear about 8 oclock & wind from south

July 10	PM South wind brisk attended with warm air and hazy sky; may be said to be <u>hot</u>
11	<u>Thursday</u> Cloudy morn with an early shower and some thunder: Calm. Sun occasionally seen before noon, and a south wind commenced. PM Air warm several appearances of showers, a few drops of rain with thunder. Shower in the evening.
12	<p><u>Friday</u>. Morn a high dense fog air calm, a southern wind commenced before noon, and the sky was densely covered with clouds PM. Clouds broken & masses indicating showers appear on the distant thunder is heard; a few drops of rain fell.</p> <p>Of our Deerfield <u>Deerfield</u> Valley. Its condition at the time it was settled by the English and its present aspect.</p> <p>Here, "A green field, in the bosom of hills winds silent with its own blue stream! Here, midst the waving oaks, were the dwellings of kings of old."- <u>Ossian</u></p> <p>Could we remove the veil which has covered the history of this/our country for thou sands of years before it was known settled by Europeans, what scenes would not be brought to view/light? If a people race once inhabited it, super rior in knowledge to the present race of Indians, as the mounds and other works of art found in the western parts of the United States indi cate, then scenes might have been interesting</p>

July
12

Deerfield Valley

and worthy if the attention of the civilized people of the present day. And who can say that the rise and fall of communities on this continent, might not furnish matter for extended volumes of history, not inferior or less important than ~~worthy~~ of those we possess of the current people of the eastern continent.

If it be true that the ancient people of America, from a want of a ~~knowledge~~ alphabetical writing ~~of letters~~, kept no clear ~~written~~ records, may they not like the Mexicans, have possessed the means of transmitting their [—] early history by ~~hieroglyphics~~ natural paintings & other symbols which ~~time has obliterated~~ nearly have been lost

Be this as it may, the probability is that we shall not, at this day, find any thing certain [] concerning their people, other than what may be learned from their ancient works scattered over the western country; and from these little can be expected beyond a faint knowledge of of their ~~wonder~~ monuments, their arts at the time of their construction. The first authentic knowledge we have of the inland parts of this quarter ~~part~~ of our Continent is from the French voyage of Cartier who assended the St. Lawrence in 1535 as far as Montreal and spent the winter at the Isle of Orleans, near Quebec. But no permanent settlement was made in Canada until 1608, under Samuel Champlain who then founded Quebec.

Previous to Cartiers Voyage fishing vessels from Europe, had been on the coast of New England & Newfoundland; but no settlements made except on the Bay of Fundy long after

July
12

Deerfield Valley

The first notice I find (in history) concerning Deerfield is in 1637. The towns on the lower part of the Connecticut (Windsor Hartford and Weathersfield) having suffered in their agriculture by the Pequot war finding themselves in want of substance, sent two agents up the river to Pocumtuc to procure ~~Indian~~ corn raised by the Indians of the place. They were successful; the Indians loaded 50 canoes with that article, and descended the river to the distressed towns, by which the people were enabled to subsist through the [] winter.

From this circumstance I am inclined to believe ~~the~~ our meadows ~~at that place~~ was then cleared, or partially so, of ~~their~~ its woods, and probably had been rudely cultivated ~~for~~ for a long time perhaps many centuries. The indications every where seen in the Valley, that it was once the bed of a lake or an expansion of the waters of our River, are too strong to admit of ~~the supposition~~ a [] & [] ~~that it had~~ it would not have been occupied, [] by the Indian from the first settlement of the Country ~~by the Indians~~

The Report of the exploring committee of the Dedham proprietors, in 1664, affords ~~and~~ the proof that the meadow was destitute of woods at that time. ~~The Report~~ It says, "We at length arrived at the place we sought after. We called it Petumtuck, because there dwell the Petumtuck Indians. Having ascended a little hill, apparently surrounded by rich meadow land, from that spot we beheld broad meadows, extending far north

July
12

Deerfield Valley

west and south of us. In these meadows we could trace the course of a fine river which comes out from the mountain on the north west, and running northerly through many miles of meadow, seemed to us to run in among the hills again, at the northeast. The tall trees of button wood and elm, exposed its course."

Had the valley been covered with woods, the river could not have been traced by the "tall trees" nor seen at any considerable distance either up or down.

Previous to their intercourse with Europeans the Indians must have been destitute of iron implements, and their cultivation of the valley ~~must have been~~ of course very imperfect.

Whether the valley ever was thickly covered by woods may be doubted; The frequency & violence of the river freshets, often bringing down vast quantities of Ice and drift ~~wood~~ timber would have swept from the ground the young growth of trees and shrubbery; and if the drift wood was thusly piled by the waters in large masses, ~~if they~~ it would easily be cleared off by fire.

The indigenous trees found in the valley since my recollection, indicate the ~~kind~~ nature of timber which originally prevailed. Among which were various kinds of oak, walnut, ~~and~~ maple & elm; butternut, ~~chestnut~~ poplar, ash, buttonwood bass, aspin and a few chestnuts on the highest ground; among the inferior sorts were Willow ~~and~~ saxifrage, sumac and elder. Some of the oaks & maples standing within my recollection

July
12

Deerfield Valley

were of great size and probably very old, presenting variable appearances. In what was called Dickinson's great pasture, were three or four maples of a prodigious size, though much decayed in the interior, and probably of several centuries growth.

On viewing these venerable trees retrospection brought to the mind the time when the redman reposed in their shades after the toils of the chase, and in little dams enjoyed their ~~rude~~ silvan sports long before the white man heard ~~of the place~~ of the paradise they had so happily selected at Pocumtuck.

Very few of the old indigenous trees are now ~~seen~~ [] in the valley: time ~~has~~ thy axe have protected them, and in most cases even their stumps & roots have decayed. One of these venerable trees an oak, is seen on the left of the road as we descend into the meadow from the south end of our street. When I was a lad, it was called old, and its present aspect does not essentially differ from that which it exhibited on my first knowledge of it; a few others of an equal age are seen in the valley And this "Organic farms with chemic changes strive Live but to die and die but to live."

It was very common to leave ~~standing~~ some of these trees, in the vicinity of the meadow lots, under whose shades the laborers ~~look~~ occasionally took shelter from the scorching rays of the sun, and ~~and~~ for refreshment. In these shades [] that season often have I feasted on the wholesome but plain farmers dinner ~~in the hot season~~. After the luscious repast it was the practice to repose

July
12

Deerfield Valley

a short time upon the shaded grass,
by which the wearied limbs ~~never~~ received new
vigor for the afternoons toil.

Told of these scenes for he seldom witnessed them the poet who ~~never~~ seldom
walked abroad under the beating rays of
the sun, without his umbrella now often sings
of the ease & happiness of the laboring man ~~industrious farmer~~
But he forgets to depict the pains he in-
duces in the field, when the arable soil
sorches his feet while delving through
the long corn rows his ~~the~~ parched throat
and the eagerness with which he views
the [] {—} tree, in the distance, where
he may quench his burning thirst &
brace up his trembling []. The clo
set port who has felt the labor of the farm
er, but for hay on house under the darting
rays of a summer's sun, will duly ap-
preciate the easy life of the field laborer.
But if the farmer laborer has less care and less per-
lexity than some of the sedentary professions,
his life is a scene of hardship, which
destroys the elasticity of the mind {—}, stiffens
the joints and brings on premature old
age. If he is not liable/exempt from the gout &
other diseases incident to a life of inactive-
ity and extravagant indulgence at the
table and the bottle, he feels the toils
& fatigue of living {—} by the {—} "sweat of the
brow."

Since the first occupancy of ~~the~~ our valley
by the English great alterations have oc-
curred in the River; In some instances the

- July
12
- bed is changed ~~to a new one~~, and in all parts the banks are more or less shifted forming new tracts of alluvium. Some ponds and morasses have been filled up or drained here with and little waste land is now seen.
- The cultivation of the meadow has been improved in some degree; but whether the best modes have been adopted is a question. To a stranger passing through it ~~at this~~ in the summer season, it appears like a rich garden and he ~~will~~ naturally suppose that great profits are derived from the crops, which is not strictly true. the want of pasturage on the mountain lands for the raising of cattle, is a great draw back to the meadow farmer. Relying on the mountain farms for his stock ~~of cattle~~ for winter feeding, he pays a heavy price, makes but small profits from his crops and ~~he~~ labors hard for the pittance returned [—]. The valley however furnishes a pleasant & healthful residence, but not a profitable one. For further particulars concerning the valley, see page 62 No. 3 of my journal or Sketch Book
- Deerfield Valley
- 13 Saturday Morn fair, wind south, and cool PM wind west A fine time no very hot weather has occurred. Like that of last season.
- 14 Sunday. Morn fair & cool, and south wind. Soon clouded over and between 10 & 11 o'clock a rain commenced. P.M. still cloudy with occasional sun and showers and air cool. Some distant thunder in the fore noon.

July 15 Monday Morn cloudy Air calm
 Rain commenced about 8 o'clock. PM
 southerly breeze. cloudy & occasional
 rain and air coolish. Some distant thunder
 late in the afternoon.
 Dr Williams informs me, that being at
 Worcester last week, he visited the Hall of
 the Historical society at that place, and
 saw an old map of the Country about
 Lake George, including Dieshau's attack
 on Genl Johnson & Col Williams, on the 8th September
 1755. The map of considerable size; the
 author's name he did not recollect.

Old Map at Worcester
 2 feet square nearly

In an old Boston News paper printed
 during the war of 1755, I once saw the
 prospectors of the Map answering this
 description, if I recollect, by one Timothy
 Clements, Surveyor, and I took some pains
 to find it in Boston, but was unsucc
 essful; nor could I ascertain whether
 the map was published. Probably the
 one seen by Dr. Williams, is the same I
 have sought for. The Litercy of the So
 ciety at Worcester, Dr Williams says is pretty
 extensive. Why do we not hear more
 from it? and of the proceedings of the Society?

16 Tuesday. Morn foggy soon fair & S.
 wind. P.M. fair & very pleasant.

17 Wednesday. Morn fair- wind south.
 late in the afternoon clouds covered
 the sky indicating rain. Some distant thunder.

July
17

By two letters of Gen. H.A.S. Dearborn of Boston, published in the Courier, July 10th and 12th, it appears he has recently made a tour into the North part of Illinois to examine the Country. The letters are dated Lake Michigan June 2d and Lake Erie June 24th. He thinks the north part of Illinois and south part of Wisconsin is one of the best tracts of land in the Union, and is peculiarly adapted to a New England population, as the rivers and streams are as limped as our trout-brooks, and run with a swift current over clear gravelly beds, within banks that are never overflowed, while the climate is pleasant, and as healthy as that of the northeastern states, being within the same parallels of latitude.

Tumu
li in
Illi
nois

“The mounds or tumuli he says are more numerous on Rock river than in any other portion of the western country. I examined groups of them at 13 places within a distance of 15 miles. They were from 7 to 43 in number, at various locations, and extended along the bank, at some points, for more than half a mile. They are round, or in the form of embankment, like the breast works of field fortifications, and in many cases the latter are from 50 to 200 feet in length. Their height varies from 7 to nearly 20 feet. They extend from near the mouth of Rock River, through Illinois, far into Wisconsin territory, showing how densely that region must have been populated some 500 or 5000 years since. The General wishes some enterprising man of genius & taste, would undertake an accurate examination of those ancient []
[]

July
17

[] fortifications, or cities, and republish a descriptive work, illustrated with a map on which each should be accurately designated, and embellished with plans & elevations of each of those wonderful structures, and delineations of the various articles of manufacture or art, which have been, or may be found, on more extensive excavations being made.

I heartily join Gen. Dearborn in this wish, and I hope he has taken sketches of some of them himself. An accurate plan of the River no doubt might be delineated from the surveys of the Engineers last season, and perhaps they have already done this. It hoped we have among us, some Humbolt who will engage in the ~~not~~ difficult, but pleasing task, of clearing away the veil that covers these surprising structures.

Beauty
of the
Country }

The following picture of the beauty of the Country is charming & perhaps exaggerated. "The most highly cultivated and ornamented park and domains of the nobles and affluent gentlemen in England, cannot be rendered, by art, so picturesque & surpassingly lovely. There is no tangled underbrush, dead trees, fallen rotten logs, morasses and barrens, rocky hills, or rough inequities of surface, and one can ride on horseback, or drive a carriage all through the country, on a broad trot, as well as over the best constructed roads, on Boston Common, which, by the by, is not to be compared to hundreds of those [] of [], which may be divided into spaces of the size of that celebrated public square, each of which would surpass it in beauty." The whole country at this season of the year is spangled with innumerable wild flowers of exquisite elegance, [] & beauty beyond any thing he ever beheld ~What a Country!

July 18

Thursday Morn fair wind south.

PM west clear & rather warm

19

Friday Morn fair and wind southerly

PM very clear and good summer Air.

A New WorkBarber's Historical Collections in Massachusetts 1 vol. 8 vo, 624 pages, with 207 views, a Map of the State, and several small ~~other~~ cuts, mostly wood, price 3 dollars.

Barber's Massachusetts

This is a most entertaining work for those of an antiquarian taste, and will serve as a Gazetteer of the state, all the towns being described and of a great proportion beautiful views given. It contains also the outlines of the History of the State, as an introduction.

In the description of the towns their present state is given, and much of their old history; including in many, the names of the first settlers and many extracts from old journals and authors relating to particular places. A short description is given of ~~and~~ the several counties and then ~~the~~ that of the town follow in alphabetical order.

See }
page }
69 }

This, and his similar work on Connecticut, are two of the most entertaining works I have met with. By furnishing a similar work on Rhode Island, Mr Barber will have given a pretty full history of New England. The two works completed, most necessarily have cost a large sum; but I think he will find a renunciation in a rapid sale. Such laborious research & exercise of art, should not go unrewarded.

July
20

Saturday Morn foggy, wind south, at noon air warm AM shower in SE with distant thunder. PM wind brisk and some indications of a shower. Sky covered at sun set. a warm day.

Rail
Road
travel
ling.

Yesterday my Daughter Isabella arrived from Boston, via Springfield, left all friends well. Took the rail way to Worcester thence in stage to Springfield; is completed the journey from Boston to Springfield & thence back to Boston, may be performed between sun rising and sun setting in the longest days of summer: or from Boston to Schenectady in the same time. Three days (or suns) will carry the traveler from Boston to Buffalo. Forty years ago this would have been deemed impossible. To what may not science carry us?

By multiplying engines & cars on rail ways, what faculties will not this mode of transportation afford to military expeditions? But as we improve in arts and sciences, may we not hope that natural disputes will be adjusted without an appeal to arms?

21

Sunday Cloudy & rainy morn wind south; air warm and very humid. Sun shine about 10. PM many Cirro cumulus clouds with sprinkling of rain and at 2 a considerable shower & some heavy thunder shower from west. Sky continued shrouded for some hours & lightning more frequent than we have had this season.

July
22

Monday Morn shrouded with a dense fog, air humid, warm and a breeze from SW: fair before noon. PM. showery with some near strokes of lightning. During these showers the heavens were overspread with clouds & little thunder was perceived among them; the flashes seen {—} seemed to be between the clouds & earth.
Querie: Was there not then an electrical equilibrium among the clouds, while it was otherwise between the clouds & earth? And therefore the discharges were often from the latter to the former, or the reverse, according to their positive or negative status? This, it appears to me, is the necessary result of the laws of electricity, as explained in the Franklinian theory.- The weather is now warm and showers frequent, suitable to the crops of Indian corn; but I am fearful our crop {—} of wheat will shrink in the berry. Some of these crops have a rank growth.

23

Tuesday. A slight fog in the morning. Soon clear, with a breeze from N.W. P.M. sky very clear and a fine N wester. No appearance of showers & few clouds of any kind. Our farmers reaping rye, the crop good, and at the present price a profitable one.

24

Wednesday Morn fair, pleasant air and breeze from N.W. PM wind changed to south, the sun hot but dry air, 6 o'clock thin clouds spread in the west. This {—}

July
24

This day Isabella received a Letter from her Brother Arthur from Paris July 12th on business; says nothing of his health. States that he may be at Deerfield in Sept. or October next. and return soon to Illinois. At evening I also received one from him of the same date, relating to his business with Miss Lydia Williams. States that his Fever and Ague had left him
 25 Thursday Morn cloudy and south wind last night some rain; sun out occasionally about noon. PM warm & many clouds

Crop
of
wheat }

In a ride through South meadow to bloody brook & thence back by Wappin, I was surprised to see so many fields of Wheat of a stout growth. It is of the bearded variety and if it escapes blight, will afford nearly a sufficiency for family use in the town. This crop was formerly considered extremely uncertain on our old lands, and was seldom raised, excepting on newly cleared grounds. Is the success of the crop owing to improved agriculture or to some occult cause producing a change in the soil?

Where our meadow is sandy, I had supposed the application of clay & lime, and where clay is predominant, sand and lime would fit the soil for wheat; but the present success of the crop is not owing to this husbandry as it has not been introduced to any great extent.

July 26	<p><u>Friday</u> Morn fair and breeze from south, some fog. PM Wind N. weather <u>hot</u> and some distant thunder in the NE; a little rain.</p> <p><u>By the papers</u> A heavy thunder shower at Northampton & further south. Lightning struck the Baptist Church at Ireland (W Springfield) last Sunday. It was conducted down the rod to a staple than entered the body of the Church and shattered the interior, The people had just left it, otherwise probably many lives might have been lost. Probably the rod was not all inserted in the earth</p> <p>People who visit us from the sea board of the State remark that our air, at this season, is much hotter than in their quarter. This no doubt is the truth as they are fanned by the cool breeze from the ocean. This excess of heat however is not found on our mountain ranges, where the influence of the higher atmosphere is felt.</p>
Stroke of lightning at W. Springfield	
Hot days in the interior of the Country	
27	<p><u>Saturday</u> Morn fair & a northern breeze PM Hazy sky and warm air.</p>
28	<p><u>Sunday</u> Morn fair and N.W. breeze Sky soon became hazy and some distant thunder in the SW a few drops of rain fell. Air mild. PM wind SW and the air warm</p>
29	<p><u>Monday</u> Morn fair, southern breeze & hazy PM Thin spread clouds & hot air & brisk wind</p>

July
29 Though hot and brisk south wind no cumulus clouds appeared, indicating a shower; the aqueous vapor seemed to be diffused over the heavens, which perhaps ~~and~~ kept up an equilibrium of the electrical matter in the atmosphere.

30 Tuesday Day fair, south wind & hot.

Tour to Whitingham } With Dr Williams, I this day made a trip to Whitingham in Vermont via Greenfield, Colrain Heath, and over the Green & Walker Land & Houghtons [] hill; arrived about 2 oclock P.M. Towards night proceeded to Rowe and put up by invitation, at Dr Goulds, there being no public house in the place.

Crops on the route } Along the whole route fine crops of wheat were seen, and especially on the Green and Wather farms, and fine crops of grass, which the people were gathering. The Country at this time appeared to the best advantage. Crops of Indian corn were few & small, on the highlands In the west part of Whitingham visited. ~~M~~ D.

Whalens Farm } Whalen's farm of 500 acres, on which is a good brick house & 4 Barns, one of which is 75 feet long. Most of the cleared part of the farm is partly level and much of it is enclosed by a surrounding fence, looking like a common field, the principal crop is grass. Near the middle of the field is a strip of thick woods in a north and south designation, left to break the water by winds which prevail in the winter. Ins teed no Indian corn or [] a small quantity of English grain; but was informed there were many promising crops of wheat in the town.

Soda da Pond } In a low tract of land west of Whitingham Village is seen what is called Sodada pond of limited extent; but by a small dam

July
30

origins
of its
Name }

at the outlet, the water is sometimes raised so as to spread over 4 or 5 [] acres. When drawn off in the summer season part of the bottom is spread over with grass some of which is cut for hay. The pond is said to be named from an Indian who often resorted to it to catch fish, beaver, otter and other furred animals; The site of his cabin is supposed still to be seen. This Indian, probably in the same who was well known to the old inhabitants of Deerfield and is said frequently to have resided in the adjacent woods, and was finally drowned in Deerfield river at the old Cheapside ferry in a state of intoxication. Sodada it was said, fled from his tribe in lower Canada in consequence of some high crime he had committed thought to be murder, and therefore does not return. He was sometimes a soldier in our service. A small distance NW of the Sodada vally is the mineral spring, which once acquired some celebrity for its virtues. It is now neglected the building erected over it demolished, and nothing but a cask placed over it marks the spot. From the taste of the waters I think it contains iron & lime, but little of any gas. On the west side of the township Deerfield river winds its southerly course, at the foot of

Mineral
Spring }

July
30

the Hoosick range of Mountains in Reads boro. To the north are some high peaks.

Fine
Prospect }

On the route from Whitingham to Rowe (about 6 miles) we passed through an open country, farmed into extensive fields of grass, and over a rocky eminence in which is a mansion house and barn owned by William Streeter. This eminence affords a most extensive prospect all round the horizon; and though a pleasant situation in the summer, must be a bleak one in winter; and none but a Green mountain Boy would be content to make it his residence at that season.

Grass
fields }

Covered with large crops of grass the lands at this time present an appearance resembling an extensive meadow, with this difference, the surface [] into elevations presenting ~~elevations~~ [] heights though not abrupt. Very few building are seen on this route, and how the lands became so much cleared of their woods is rather mysterious.

Rowe }

At Rowe we saw many fields of wheat which are promising; and as the country generally is elevated, and of course cooler than the vallies, why may it not, by proper cultivation, become a wheat growing country? If lime is found necessary in its cultivation, it may be obtained, and at a cheap rate, from the quarries in Whitingham & reads boro. The Country must be ~~fine~~ excellent for grazing

July
30 and raising of cattle sheep &c: and though the winters are long and severe thence must be an ample supply of fodder, if the people improve the advantages they possess for procuring it.

31 Wednesday. The morn at Rowe, foggy with a south wind. Proceeded to the upper village (Slab City) in Charlemont, the route (the middle one) over a hilly country presenting some good farms, with fine looking crops of grass, wheat, oats, and potatoes and good grazing pastures. Before we reached the vally of Deerfield river in which the village is situated, we passed along very high lands, near the margin of a tremendous ravine, through which flows a stream uniting with Deerfield river. Were I to say the adjacent heights are more than 1200 feet above the valley I believe the estimation would be within the truth. Is this ravine natural or has it been made by the abrasion of the waters of the creek? new road now leads up the ravine to Rowe.

Charle
mont }
upper }
Village }

Great }
Ravine }
at }

The upper village is increasing in buildings; a new one for a high school and two good sized mansion houses are nearly completed on the abrupt elevation on the north of the place~ A small fertile meadow is seen south of the village, bording south on Deerfield River.

Shelburne }
Falls }

Preceded down the Charlemont vally to Shelburne falls. Here is a very hadsome village, recently built & bids fair for a place of business. Its fine water priv
dges

July 31 diges, will invite manufactures and mechanics, and probably will ultimately become a place of much & various business at this place is an Academy commenced a considerable notice, though said to be rather sectarian of the Baptist order.

Academy Since my last visit to this place, great improvements have been made in the road eastward, by carrying it near the foot of the mountain on the left, and through other points of Shelburne, at a very considerable expense to that road making town, more for the benefit of the public than themselves. Should the falls become a great place of mechanical business, the time may come when a road may be necessary down the valley of Deerfield river to unite with the river road to Hartford in Connecticut.

Improve ment of Roads In my short route I noticed the neat construction of many buildings in various places, generally dressed out in white painting which gives a lively appearance to the various [—] scenery. From Colraine a road is now partially graded up a stream a valley to the northerly part of Heath; the ascent of which will be gradual~

Neat-ness of Houses In the afternoon we reached home in a heavy shower attended with some sharp lightning.

The weather The weather at Whitingham on Wednesday, by the people there, was said to be hottest they had felt this season; but I was told the mercury was

July
31 not higher than 82 degrees: in our valley it was about 90. This difference is owing to the ~~great~~ elevation of Whitingham above our valley. How is the heat at that place at any time so severe as with us, and the crop of Indian Corn is generally very small & hardly pays for the labor of cultivating it.

Consump
tive
diseases In the course of the town Dr Williams was called ~~on~~ to visit six or more families who were laboring under consumption, or inclining to it. In a tract of Country where I should have ~~expected~~ supposed "every breeze wasted rosy health," I hardly thought we should find sickness or any kind. But this destructive disease seems to be the bane of our mountainous regions.

August
1 Thursday Morn fair, and wind NW; day fair throughout, and the air mild, the effect of a NW wind.

By the papers we learn that yellow fever prevails to some extent, in New York City. As that & more southern cities, in creases in population this fever will probably become more frequent, and I think without importation from the West Indies & South America, or other tropical regions.

2 Friday Morn cloudy; wind South & air cool. Sun occasionally seen through the day, but generally cloudy.

A Pamphlet of 224 pages, large 8 vo, has recently appeared

appeared from a New York Press entitled American Slavery As it is: Testimony of a thousand witness. It is said to compiled and written by Theodore D Weld and published by the American Anti-Slavery Society Office No 143 Nassau Street. The pages consist of two columns of small type and contain more than some thick octavos.

Before perusing this work, I was aware that where human beings were deprived of their liberty and held as property by masters, the laws must necessarily be rigid and even sanguinary. But I had not supposed they were intentionally murderous excessively cruel, ~~and~~ diabolical, and ~~and~~ like those of Draco written in Blood, and enforced by burnings, rifle ballots, starvation, and all the iron implements which the most devilish ingenuity could contrive. But I find that the measure of ingenuity every where in the south is full to the brim; and he who can analyze a ~~it~~ book ~~contents~~ without shuddering, must possess a disposition more callous than I can conceive of.

The facts & testimony contained in the work, rest mostly on the authority of slave holders, whose names & residences are given. The book should be found in every family in the free states, and read by all. No work I have perused on the system of slavery, has presented it in so horrible a form as this. It is a true delineation (I believe) of the

August
2

bloody “institutions” of the slave states, where liberty grows under chains & manacles. more ~~terrible~~ diabolical than ever existed at Algiers.

Our pro-slavery men may tell us of the danger of such development, to the union of the States! To this union I would cling so long as a probability ~~exists~~ remains of bringing the southern people to the principles of true republicanism. But if this Union can be preserved only by submission to this southern ~~such a~~ system, then we may pay too dearly for its preservation. The time may come, and in deed has come,

where the rights and liberties of the free states must succumb to the Slave states in the South; or a spirit like that of our revolutionary Fathers must be roused to save us from the iron hand of despotism (Let us open our eyes to the impending danger!) Can it be credited that at this time citizens of Massachusetts are sold into perpetual slavery in some of the southern states! See pages 140 & 141-142 of the pamphlet, for proof of this fact.

3

Saturday Morn fair with a thin fog; air clear. PM South wind many cirro cumulus clouds, and air hot, but no appearance of showers. Air nearly calm at night.

Among the passengers in the Great Western recently arrived at N York, from England is Col. Mudge and other Gentlemen, appointed by the
British

August 3	British Government as Commissioners on the Eastern boundary. (Boston paper) Is Col. Mudge the same Gentleman who assisted Gen. Ray in the great trigonometrical survey of England? If so he must be advanced in years , probably beyond 70 years. He may be a son of the an the elder Col. Mudge and conversant of the his Father's operations. The account of the survey was written by Col. Mudge, Gen Ray having deceased, if I am correct, before the survey was completed. For an account of these operations See Hutton's Course of Mathematics, Vol. 2 page 59, et Sage Library useful knowledge & Mat. Geography
British Commissioners	In settling this boundary if the treaty of 1783 is to be regarded, the process will not be difficult. A Transit line from the head of the St Croix to the high lands will fix the east line of Main, and others that along the high lands, the northerly boundary of the State.
4	<u>Sunday</u> . Fair morn- wind gentle at S.W. & cool air. P.M. Air warmer and fair sun wind moderate.
Note continued in No 13	This page ends my journal from Jan'y 1, 1839, including 216 days, in which the weather has been noticed on each day, & such other matter as was deemed of importance.

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